THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS
BENGALURU • SUNDAY • DECEMBER 11, 2022 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 24 • LATE CITY EDITION

CJI FOR REDUCTION OF AGE OF CONSENT UNDER POCSO ACT

NEW DELHI: Amidst the difficulty faced by judges while dealing with cases falling under the POCSO Act where consenting adolescents engage in sexual activity, Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Saturday urged the legislature to consider growing concerns related to the age of consent under the 2012 Act. The POCSO Act criminalises all sexual activity for those under the age of 18 regardless of whether consent is factually present between the two minors in a particular case | **P7**

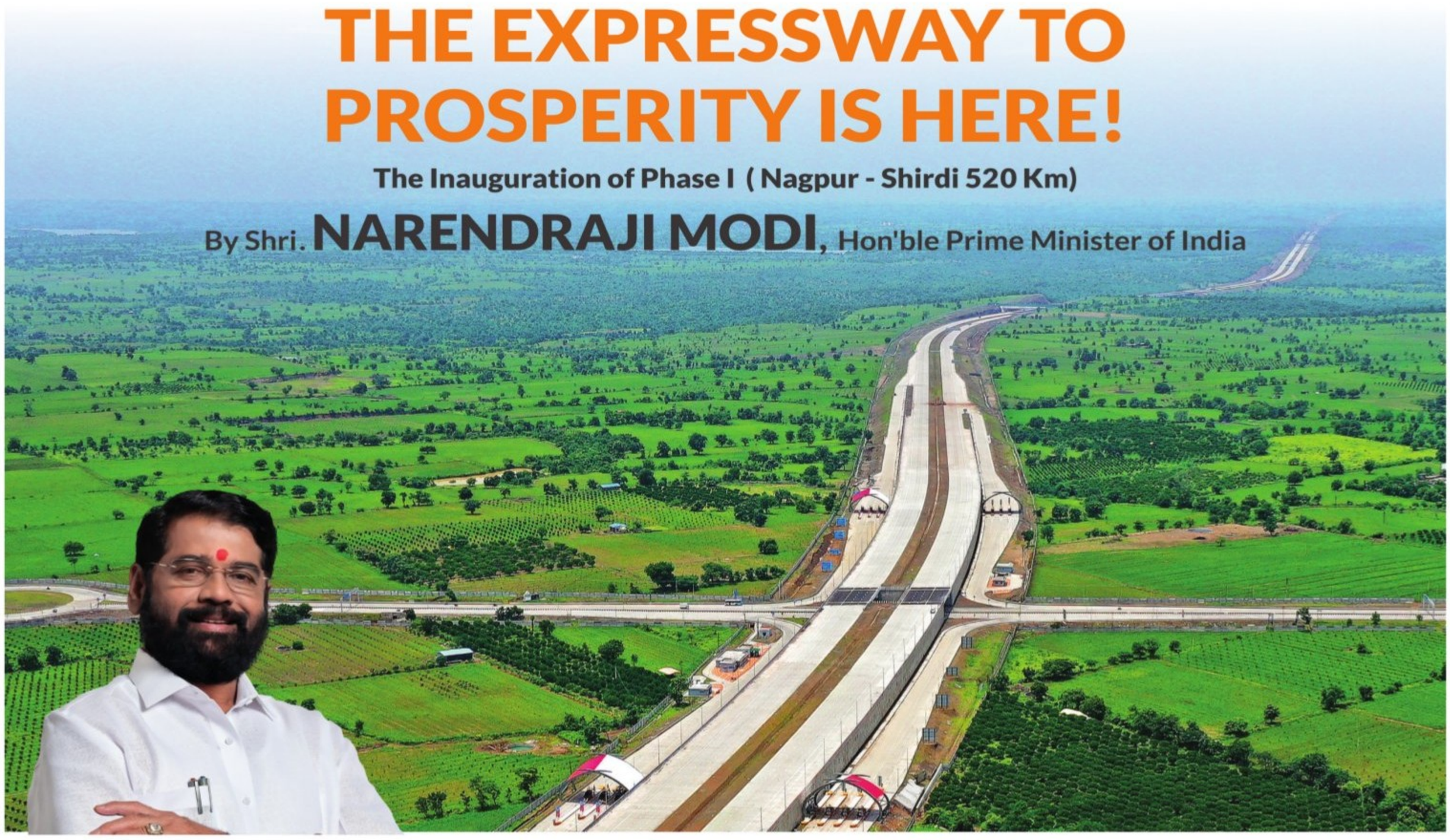
A Maharashtra State Government Project

HINDU HRUDAYSAMRAT BALASAHEB THACKERAY MAHARASHTRA SAMRUDDHI MAHAMARG

THE EXPRESSWAY TO PROSPERITY IS HERE!

The Inauguration of Phase I (Nagpur - Shirdi 520 Km)

By Shri. NARENDRAJI MODI, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India



HINDU HRUDAYSAMRAT BALASAHEB THACKERAY MAHARASHTRA SAMRUDDHI MAHAMARG

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• In The August Presence of •

Shri. Eknath Shinde
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Maharashtra

Shri. Nitin Gadkari
Hon'ble Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India

Shri. Devendra Fadnavis
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Maharashtra

Date - 11th December, 2022 Time - 9:30 AM

Venue: Temple ground (mandir maidan), All India Institute of Medical Sciences(AIIMS), Nagpur 441 108

www.msrdc.in

ALMANAC TODAY
Sunday: 11/12/2022 • Year: Shubhakruta • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Margashira • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Thrutheeya 1.10 pm • Nakshatra: Punnavasu 6.29 pm • Moon in Kataka Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00pm • Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pmm

WEATHER
MIN 18°C | MAX 22°C
FORECAST: Light rain. Breaks of sun late

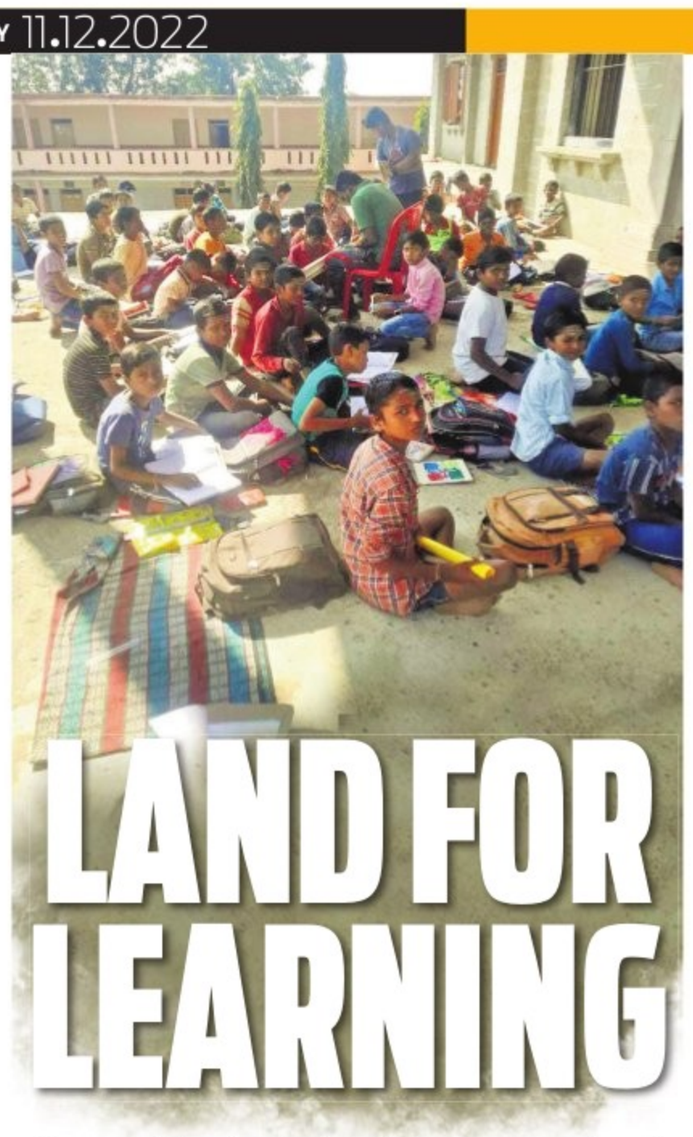
Sunrise 6.31 am | Sunset 5.54 pm | Moonrise 10.36 pm | Moonset 9.03 am

I am following Dasoha Tatwa. Whatever the public gives, it is used for the needy, abiding by the philosophy of 12th-century social reformer Basaveshwara

— Poojya Shivanand Swamiji

Honours

Gulbarga University conferred an honorary doctorate on Shivanand Swamiji in 2013. He also presided over the Kalaburagi district-level second Sharana Sahitya Sammelana at Jewargi in February 2017



LAND FOR LEARNING

A swamiji collects funds for a new school after students share with him their plight

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@Kalaburagi

AMID religious activities and a slew of commitments that come with the role, education has always been paramount for the pontiff of Dasoha Virakta Mutt of Sonna village of Jewargi taluk, Poojya Shivanand Swamiji.

The instrument which dispels ignorance, empowers communities and allows them to confront myriad challenges in life, is education. It has to start somewhere, and the accepted system of imparting education is at school, for which the pontiff successfully acquired land.

The clamour of demands from students of Ghattarga village of Afzalpur taluk to construct a new high school had reached its apotheosis but failed to sway the government, which has observed a studied silence.

Shivanand Swamiji, who had heaved the responsibility of building a new government high school, maintains a low profile. In Sonna village, he provides free education and organises mass feeding for the poor, Dalits and tribals through the educational institution in the village.

Responding to an invitation of devotees of Ghattarga village of Afzalpur taluk to give a religious discourse in October, Shivanand Swamiji went to Ghattarga, where a group of students from the Government High School came to meet him. They narrated their plight in school.

Located on the premises of Ghattarga Bhagamma Temple, the school belonged to the endowment department. Instead of concentrating on their studies, the students had to be constantly cautious of their safety in the dilapidated school, especially during the monsoon. Repairs required funds, and although the school education department had ample funds at their disposal for reconstruction of the school building, the endowment department was unwilling to permit either repair or reconstruction. They reasoned that permission cannot be granted as per rules, while the government, according to the rules, cannot purchase land for construction of a school.

However, a flicker of hope lay in the shadows of a provision that the department has to build the school on government land, or on a piece of land that has been donated.

Ghattarga was devoid of any government land, and the number of donors came to zilch.

The students had undertaken a padayatra from Ghattarga to Kalaburagi, around 80km, to pour out their woes to the chief minister in the first week of October. But the buffer thrown around the chief minister by officials prevented them from presenting their case. The students had reached a dead end and requested the swamiji for a breakthrough.

Akshara Jolige

Shivanand Swamiji could have used the opportunity to add another branch to his mutt in Ghattarga. Instead, he encouraged local people to form a committee, which he led to collect donations from villagers to purchase the land and donate it to the government for a new school.

Carrying a cotton bag to collect voluntary donations from people, swamiji called it 'Akshara Jolige' into which villagers would pledge their contributions, big and small. The initial financial tranche came from the swamiji himself, who donated Rs 1 lakh from his mutt. Even if someone donated Re 1, the committee members issued a receipt to keep suspicion at bay, while working towards a noble cause.

The committee had in 10 days collected Rs 61 lakh from the people, with which they purchased 3 acres of land in Ghattarga. Subsequently, Afzalpur MLA MY Patil reinforced the efforts for a new school by purchasing an acre of land and donating it to the villagers. The Ghattarga Bhagamma Temple Trust decided to purchase an acre of land to donate to the government.

The committee handed over land documents pertaining to 2.5 acres to Sakreppa Gowda, Deputy Director of Public Instruction (DDPI), Kalaburagi, on November 21. A letter to the DDPI was submitted by the committee, urging that the new building of the government high school be called 'Ghattarga Bhagamma Akshara Jolige Proudha Shale'.

Spreading knowledge

Shivanand Swami heads Shivanand Shivayogi Grameena Jana Kalyana Samsthe, which runs educational institutions including the ITI institute in Sonna village. Except for primary school, the Mutt runs everything. A few years ago, primary schools became aided schools. Of around 1,500 students, over 600 students are from the Dalit and tribal community. The Virakta Mutt provides them free hostel accommodation and education.

Bag of grains

Starting on Ugadi, Shivanad Swamiji and his disciples visit houses in Sonna and surrounding villages to collect food grains. First, they would knock on the doors of Dalits for foodgrains. People were free to give any quantity of grains ranging from 50gm to a quintal, which are used to provide free food to students and devotees at the mutt, which also organises mass marriage and free health checkup camps, every year.

Power of hunger

To mount pressure on then chief minister Dharam Singh's government to complete the Mallabad Lift Irrigation project, Shivanand Swami launched a hunger strike for 13 days, along with some other swamis of Jewargi taluk. The hunger strike was called off only after Singh visited the spot, and their demand was to be fulfilled.

Children, including those from tribal communities, attend a special class at a school; Poojya Shivanand Swamiji of Dasoha Virkta Matha Sonna visits a house at Ghattarga with Akshara Jolige to collect money

We are proud that Poojya Shivanand Swamiji is doing Anna Dasoha, Vidya Dasoha and fighting to resolve the problems of people

-- Dr Ajay Singh, Jewargi MLA

Though Akshara Jolige Proudha Shale sounds peculiar, it is a reminder of how villagers purchased the land using Aksha jolige, and the significant role played by the pontiff

-- Sakreppa Gowda, DDPI

After 60 yrs, villagers to get power

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Shivamogga

IT is finally light at the end of the tunnel for villagers of Shettyhalli and Chitrashettyhalli of Shivamogga taluk. These villagers had sacrificed their land and homes for the construction of Linganamakki reservoir on Sharavathi river, to provide power to the state. Ironically, they have waited for six decades in the hope of getting power supply for their own homes.

On Sunday, foundation will be laid for laying underground power cables as part of a power project being taken up at an estimated cost of Rs 360.41 crore. These villages falls in the jurisdiction of Puradalu gram panchayat.

Shettyhalli is situated about 18 km from Shivamogga city inside a reserve forest area. There were more than 110 houses and about 345 acres of land being cultivated in the village. These villagers were however displaced from Sharavathi valley area between 1960-64.

This is the fourth time that a foundation stone is being laid to provide power to these villages. Earlier, efforts were made by former CM late S Bangarappa and former minister Kagodu Thimmappa.

In one of the attempts, electric poles were erected. But, due to the norms of the reserve forest area, the electric poles had to be removed as they posed threat to the flora and fauna.

Efforts made to evict these already evicted villagers by the government met with strong resistance. Now, the power project proposed by the state government has brought some hope to the villagers of Shettyhalli and Chitrashettyhalli.

District in-charge minister Narayana Gowda will be laying the foundation stone. Energy minister Sunil Kumar, former CM B S Yediyurappa, MP B Y Raghavendra, Shivamogga rural MLA Ashok Naik are expected to be present on the occasion.

SAFETY ON ROADS

Cyclists urge CM to pass mobility Bill in winter session

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CYCLE enthusiasts of Bengaluru took out an awareness ride around the central business district on Saturday to garner support for the Active Mobility Bill, drafted by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT), that aims to provide safe and accessible infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.

They urged Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to pass the Bill in the upcoming winter session in Belagavi. The Bill's passage will be a foundational step as Karnataka will be the first state to initiate an Act on ensuring mobility of pedestrians and cyclists.

"The transport system has changed drastically in the past 20 years. Even the number of people cycling on Bengaluru streets has drastically reduced as it is considered dangerous these days to ride a bicycle in the city," said Shreya Gadepalli, an urban mobility expert and founder of Urban Works.

"The reach of public transport has declined as more people prefer using private vehicles these days. If the Bill is passed, it will ensure last-mile connectivity. It will motivate more people to use public transport which will reduce the load of private vehicles on the streets," he explained.

Sathya Sankaran, founder, Council for Active Mobility, said the Bill drafted in 2021 is not being given priority. "From the mobility perspective or climate change, this Bill is extremely important and must be passed now. The quality of infrastructure will also improve in the state with the Bill," he added.

Currently, the situation of bicycle lanes and footpaths is horrible. People are willing to switch to walking and cycling only if good quality footpaths and cycle lanes are present. A city with a high density like Bengaluru must rely on public transport and to provide this, it is important to provide last-mile connectivity in terms of walking and cycling, Sankaran explained.

Cyclists spread awareness on the Active Mobility Bill in Bengaluru on Saturday

Vacant UGCET seats to be filled via lateral entry

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) has opted to fill the seats left over from the Undergraduate Common Entrance Test (UGCET) through lateral entry of diploma students.

As the counselling for the Undergraduate National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (UGNEET) and UGCET had occurred simultaneously, a number of UGCET seats were left vacant. To remedy this, KEA had stated that it will approach the Supreme Court with a Special Leave Petition (SLP) for permission to conduct an addition mop-up round.

KEA Executive Director Ramya S, however, clarified that it was later decided not to approach the apex court. "The number of vacant seats left over is low, ranging to around 50 to 150 seats. Due to this, we decided not to file an SLP," she said.

She also mentioned that the earlier decision to file an SLP was due to a similar situation that had arisen in March.

"As per the current instructions, the vacant seats will be filled through lateral entry for diploma students. There will be no bar for the students, and the diploma will be treated as equivalent of PU qualifications. Therefore, there is no bar on whether architecture students can take up an electrical engineering or vice versa," she said.

In this direction, KEA issued a circular that an additional mop-up round will not be conducted for UGCET.

"The admission process for engineering and architecture courses conducted by KEA will be completed for the year 2022. Allotment of remaining seats in veterinary and agriculture courses will be published on the website," the circular stated.

EXPRESS READ

Bio survey at Puttenahalli Lake today

Bengaluru: Members of the Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust (PNLIT) will organise a 'Bioblitz' at Puttenahalli Lake from 9.30 am on Sunday. All those above 12 years of age and interested in wildlife can attend the event. Bioblitz is a short but intense session in which participants conduct a biological survey of a particular area and record all the life forms there. The aim of the exercise is to survey and document the biodiversity in the area and get citizens involved in conservation issues. The biodiversity is being documented on a citizen-science platform — iNaturalist (inaturalist.org) -- and will be available to all. The documentation will involve listings of details of all life forms, including mosses, herbs, shrubs, trees, flowers, lichen, insects, birds and animals. A naturalist session by noted biologist Dr Kaustubh Rau will also be held. **ENS**

BESCOM starts implementing rooftop solar scheme

Bengaluru: To encourage adoption of sustainable energy, Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company Ltd (BESCOM) has started implementing the central sponsored grid-connected Rooftop Solar Scheme. The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has allocated 10 mega-watt capacities to BESCOM. The department has already received 1,500 applications seeking installation of the grid-connected rooftop solar panels, said BESCOM MD Mahantesh Bilagi. For consumers availing the services, BESCOM will pay for the subsidy to the vendors and they will have to bear the remaining themselves. Under the scheme, MNRE is providing a 40 per cent subsidy for the first 3 kW and a 20 per cent subsidy beyond 3 kW and up to 10 kW. The solar panels and other equipment will be installed by the empanelled vendors who will also ensure five-year maintenance. **ENS**

BIT induction programme opened

Bengaluru: TiE Global Board of Trustees Chairman B J Arun inaugurated the first semester of the 2022-23 Bachelor of Engineering batch and the student induction programme of the Bangalore Institute of Technology (BIT). The inaugration was attended by SignDesk founder Krupesh Bhat. **ENS**

TUNED IN

Infosys Foundation Chairperson Sudha Murty and Adichunchanagiri Mutt seer Nirmalanandanatha swami during the release of 67 books to mark the 67th Kannada Rajyotsava organised by the Sapna Book House in Bengaluru on Saturday

CMRIT students felicitated

Bengaluru: Krishikalpa Foundation CEO C M Patil said entrepreneurship is in full swing in India. He was speaking at the inauguration of academic programmes 2022-23 at CMR Institute of Technology (CMRIT) on Saturday. Over a hundred students were felicitated during the inauguration for their achievements in academics, projects and sports. **ENS**

State targets tier 2, 3 hosps under LaQshya

NAMRATA SINDWANI
@Bengaluru

THE LaQshya scheme of the National Health Mission (NHM) will now be extended to tier 2 and 3 hospitals to improve the maternal mortality rate (MMR) in the state, said Deputy Director (maternal health), Health and Family Welfare Department, Dr Rajkumar N.

Hospitals that are conducting 50-90 deliveries (tier 2) will be targeted to meet the standards set under the LaQshya scheme. As of now, 124 hospitals that perform over 100 deliveries per month have been selected in the state.

Rajkumar told TNIE that 89 labour rooms and 84 operation theatres have received the state certification under the LaQshya scheme from 2021 till November 2022. The plan is to provide the certification to 14 other hospitals in December and the remaining by March 2023. From April 2022 till December 2022, 22 labour rooms and 21 operation theatres also got the national certification under the programme.

The scheme is aimed at improving maternity services during labour and for six weeks post delivery. The hospitals are given a checklist for services like the number of C-section deliveries in the night, availability of labour tables and the number of drugs and medical equipment available to ensure they have minimum gaps in facilities and infrastructure.

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KISHAN SLAMS FASTEST 200, ENTERS ODI RECORD BOOKS

Wicket-keeper, who replaced the injured Rohit Sharma, took just 126 balls to reach milestone against Bangladesh on Saturday

156 RUNS IN BOUNDARIES

The opener took his time to get going, taking 40 balls to reach 33. After the end of the first 10 overs, though, he cut loose in an exhibition of daring strokeplay all around the wicket. Out of the 210 runs he finished with, he scored 156 in boundaries (24x4, 10x6). He did have a chance of scoring a triple ton but perished soon after the double century, with 14.1 overs remaining

72ND TON FOR KOHLI

Former skipper Virat Kohli, who was involved in a 290-run stand with Kishan, brought up his 44th ODI 100. He was dismissed for 113

In the process, Kohli went past Ricky Ponting's mark of 71 international 100s to be in sole second place with 72. Sachin Tendulkar leads with 100 100s

Bangladesh had already won the series as they had won the first two games

227 runs

MARGIN OF VICTORY FOR INDIA. BANGLADESH WERE BOWLED OUT FOR 182, CHASING 410

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

MANDOUS EFFECT

Damaged mechanised fishing boats at Kasimedu Harbour as Cyclone Mandous made landfall, in Chennai on Saturday. Five persons lost their lives in Chennai and suburbs | P JAWAHAR | P5

IAF's top testing centre opens doors to private sector

ASTE also has the Flight Test Instrumentation Lab, which is into developing machine learning and AI-based applications for flight testing

RAMU PATIL @Bengaluru

AIRCRAFT and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE), the Indian Air Force's testing centre which has been ably supporting the armed forces since its inception in 1972, is now set to welcome the private sector, including start-ups, as it is poised to take the "Atma Nirbhar" initiative to greater heights.

In a significant development, the ASTE is opening up its facilities, including what is called a "flying lab" — testing systems on aircraft — to private players. If a private industry or a laboratory comes up with an innovative idea which is of strategic importance for the armed forces, they can write to Air Headquarters, which in turn will task ASTE to test and validate these systems. Even if those systems do not get into production mode in India, an ASTE certification will help the private firms to market their systems abroad.

In recent times, many defence start-ups have approached ASTE seeking guidance on issues pertaining to flight testing and certification.

"ASTE is an experienced and internationally recognised flight test authority of India. To have such an indigenous establishment within the country is a big boost to the Atma Nirbhar initiative," said Air Vice Marshal J Mishra, Commandant, ASTE. "In the complex cycle of aviation systems development which includes R&D, certification and productionisation, flight testing plays a very critical role," he said.

Be it the induction of Rafale fighter jets or home-grown Light Combat Aircraft, integration of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile on Su-30 MKI or testing Astra, the beyond-visual-range air-to-air missile, all aircraft and systems are tested and validated by this premier institute of the Indian Air Force located in Bengaluru before they make the cut. P8

BORDER DISPUTE: SHAH TO SPEAK TO K'TAKA, MAHA CMs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah has convened a meeting with Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai and Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde to discuss the ongoing border issue between the two states, on December 14, informed CM Bommai here on Saturday.

"A delegation of MPs from Karnataka will be meeting Amit Shah on Monday. I have spoken with Shah already and he told me that he will call me when required. Our stand and the ground realities have been explained to him and it will once again be clarified to him", Bommai told reporters at Vidhana Soudha.

Bommai said an all-party meeting will be held to discuss the issue. He said he has informally spoken with JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy and Congress leader Siddaramaiah in this regard. The date of the meeting will be decided soon, he said. The CM made it clear that there is no change in the state's stand as far as the border issue is concerned and the legal battle will be pursued in the Supreme Court. MORE ON: P4

EXPRESS READ

Shivamogga village to finally get power supply after six decades

Shivamogga: Villagers of Shettyhalli and Chitrashettyhalli of Shivamogga taluk, who sacrificed their land for the construction of Linganamakki reservoir on Sharavathi river, to provide power to the state, will get power supply after six decades. P2

Sukhu new Himachal CM, Agnihotri his Dy

To take oath today; ministry expansion later

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu

Mukesh Agnihotri

FOUR-TIME MLA Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu will be the new chief minister of Himachal Pradesh with outgoing leader of the opposition Mukesh Agnihotri as his deputy, the party decided on Saturday. They alone will take their oaths of office on Sunday and the ministry will be expanded later.

The decision was formally taken at a Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting in Shimla, with all 40 party MLAs signing a letter electing Sukhu as the CLP head in the Assembly. This is the first time the state will have a deputy CM.

Earlier in the day, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge cleared Sukhu's name based on inputs from central observers.

Said to be a Rahul Gandhi loyalist, Sukhu is a known detractor of former CM Virbhadra Singh, whose widow Prathiba, state Congress unit president, was in the CM race.

Earlier, Pratibha's supporters raised slogans outside the hotel where observers Bhupesh Bhagel and Bhupinder Singh Hooda were lodged, demanding the hot seat for her.

Since Prathiba is the sitting MP in Mandi, sources said the party was reluctant to give her the CM's post as it would force a bypoll the Congress was unsure of winning, since the BJP captured nine of its 10 Assembly segments in the polls. The party's poor performance in Mandi hurt her chances. She then pushed for her son Vikramaditya Singh being made the deputy CM, but that was rejected. Finally, she fell in line. P8

En-Nesyri celebrates with his teammates after heading the ball home to give Morocco the lead in the first half against Portugal on Saturday | AFP

MOROCCO CREATE HISTORY

The Atlas Lions beat Portugal 1-0, become first African nation to reach the semifinal of the World Cup | P11

En-Nesyri goal the difference

Forward capitalised on some shoddy goalkeeping as he rose highest to head in from very close range

Down to 10 but hold on

The African side were reduced to 10 men late on but held Portugal at arms length to prevail

Defensive masterclass

Morocco's basis for win was another defensive masterclass. They have not conceded to an opposition in five matches at this World Cup

FAREWELL RONALDO?

CRISTIANO RONALDO, WHO WAS AGAIN A SUBSTITUTE, CAME ON IN THE SECOND HALF BUT WAS UNABLE TO INFLUENCE PLAY. WAS THIS HIS LAST GAME FOR COUNTRY?

Argentina prevail in thriller

Late on Friday, La Albiceleste clinched a thriller over The Netherlands. They led 2-0 before Dutch restored parity. In the shoot-out, they kept their nerve to win 4-3

Results: Netherlands 2-2 Argentina, Argentina win 4-3 on penalties; Morocco 1-0 Portugal

BOLD CLAIMS

I went to jail 14 times to help poor, says Sriramulu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Ballari

"I was a back-bencher in class. I have done 'PhD' on how to do malpractice during examination. I ragged my teachers. When I used to wear jeans, girls used to look at me. I went to jail 14 times." If you are thinking that these are dialogues from a movie, hold on.

These claims were made by Transport Minister B Sriramulu while addressing students at the Diamond Jubilee celebration of Vidya Vardhak Sangh SG Pre-University College in Ballari, of which he is an alumnus. The minister however added, "I was a rowdy only to protect the poor and get justice for the needy".

He added, "I was not a rank student. Many of my teachers tried to educate me, but I don't know why I was not able to study." Recalling his college days, Sriramulu said, "Many of my teachers scolded me. During my college days, teachers said I was unable to speak properly in any language, including Kannada".

The minister said while he does not hesitate to speak about his past, his advice to students was to study hard to achieve their goals and live a good life.

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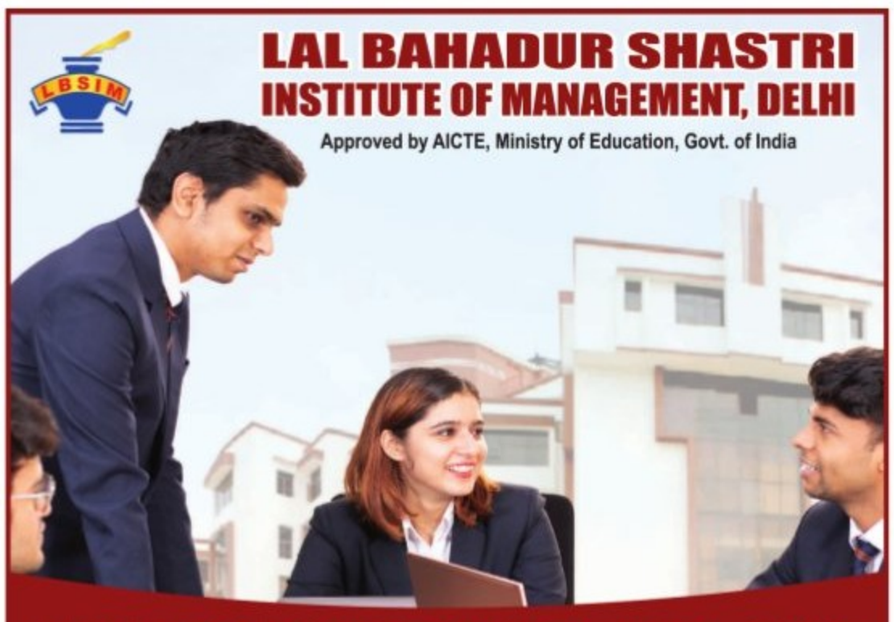

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OIPR-44009/13/0032/2223

Home Minister Araga Jnanendra on Saturday warned of action against those indulging in 'moral policing' saying that they will not be spared and action will be taken against all those who take law into their hands. On renaming 'Salaam Aarti', the home minister said that the decision is correct

'If people cooperate, we can drive away monster called corruption'

TEAM TNSE

EXPRESS **Dialogues**

"THINK with courage and act with faith. Keep these twin principles so that excellence can be achieved in driving away corruption, the 'Monster'," says Karnataka Lokayukta Justice BS Patil, who shared his vision and mission to combat corruption, with the editors and staff of *The New Sunday Express*. He has set a target for investigators to take the conviction rate from the present 30 per cent to 85 per cent, which is above the conviction rate recorded by the CBI. Excerpts:

The Karnataka Lokayukta is among the most proactive Lokayuktas in the country, but there is a general perception that corruption is rampant in every office and that nothing happens without bribes. How do you look at this as a head of the institution?

Yes. Absolutely. No doubt it has spread like cancer. But to say that we can't do anything about it is not correct. I don't believe that it has reached the level where we can't fight it. If people cooperate, institutions like Lokayukta can take decisive steps to fight it and achieve the goal. After I assumed the office of Lokayukta, before the duties and responsibilities under the Prevention of Corruption Act were entrusted to us, we have done so many exercises such as frequent surprise visits to public offices. As a result, several things were set right. Without even conducting inquiries, investigation or recommending punishment against anybody, public grievances are met by resorting to the provisions under the Karnataka Lokayukta Act. The progress made is indeed encouraging. An umpteen number of suo motu cases have been registered against encroachment and pollution of lakes in all districts. Surprise visits were made to 31 hospitals in Bengaluru by a team including police and judicial officers. Several deficiencies and lapses have been noticed, and cases registered against these hospitals and also government authorities. The follow-up measures taken so far are quite encouraging and beneficial to the common man. We have visited different districts and heard and disposed of grievances and allegations made against public servants. We raided five taluk offices and 43 sub-registrar's offices in Bengaluru and 11 RTO checkposts along borders across the state. Several illegalities have been noticed and cases registered against erring officials. The matters will be pursued with greater vigour and focus, so that the guilty will not escape the clutches of law.

How is the change now after ACB (Anti-Corruption Bureau) has been abolished and Lokayukta entrusted with the Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act again?

Now we are getting a lot of complaints. We are registering them and proceeding in accordance with law. We conducted a two-day workshop recently, involving all police officers of the Karnataka Lokayukta from different districts. A thorough brainstorming session on 15 topics was arranged. A training programme related to effective investigation, steps to be taken to secure source materials to decisively nail offences of amassing disproportionate wealth by public servants, requirements of sanction, need for adducing proper evidence before the court both oral and documentary including digital evidence, so as to bring home the guilt of the accused was conducted inviting experts in the legal field, experts in investigation and also persons with expertise in electronic and digital evidence. At the end of the workshop, the officers sounded jubilant and confident.

Is there an increase in the number of complaints after the powers of the Prevention of Corruption Act are restored to Lokayukta?

Yes. Earlier, we used to receive an average of 350-400 complaints per month till June. Now, we are receiving more than 800 complaints each month. Imagine the kind of workload we have. There are loads of files to be attended to.

What is the feedback you are getting now?

The feedback is that public servants who were wantonly demanding money and indulging in corrupt activities have suffered a jolt and they are not indulging in such acts. There is a sense of fear among public servants as they genuinely apprehend that there could be a raid anytime and the Lokayukta would not spare anybody. I am now sure that if people cooperate, we are going to drive away this monster.

What message would you give corrupt officials?

The message is very stern and clear: Corrupt officers will not be spared. We are going to raid and trap and all efforts will be made to drive this menace of corruption out. I am sure people will cooperate, come in good numbers with specific complaints with supporting materials and shall not retrace their steps once the complaint is filed. They have to help us unearth the truth and punish guilty officials. Public servants have to be public servants. They can't have their private selfish interest as paramount, sacrificing the public interest. If he is indulging in corrupt activities, we are not going to spare him. He will learn his lesson. Let us all think with courage and act with faith, so as to drive away corruption.

What about the black sheep within the system?

We should be vigilant against them. If I find any such persons, all our investigations would be first directed against them and we will go after them. I have given this message to all our staff.

What is the rate of conviction, and what is being done to increase it?

It is disappointing. The conviction rate is alarmingly low in our country, while in places like the US, it is above 90 per cent. It is less in India because of drawbacks in the investigation, non-cooperation of the public, witnesses turning hostile, investigating officers being inefficient and lacking in skills, apart from other contributory factors. In the Lokayukta, there is a conglomeration of the legal brain in the form of judges, skilled investigators in the form of the police wing headed by an ADGP and the technical wing headed by a chief engineer. This will help in making the investigation effective and efficient. In the recent training programme, I impressed upon police officers that their aim shall be to increase the conviction rate well beyond the current 60-65 per cent recorded by the CBI.

Do you think any changes are required to make the functioning of Lokayukta stronger, as you are only a recommendatory body?

Yes. The recommendations shall not remain mere recommendations. They shall be binding on the competent authorities concerned. Without such a binding effect, the exercise done by the institution with so much effort will not be of much use. Particularly, in matters where public interest is involved, it has to be ensured that the recommendations are binding and have to be complied with mandatorily. Earlier, there was a provision under Section 13 of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act. As per the said provision, if after investigation into an allegation against a public servant, the Lokayukta finds the allegations were substantiated and the public servant concerned should not continue to hold the post held by him, the Lokayukta or the Upalokayukta could make a declaration to that effect in his report. Such a declaration would come into effect and there was no provision for the Competent Authority to reject the declaration. Now, by way of amendment, the said provision has been modified and the declaration would come into effect only if it is accepted by the Competent Authority and the Competent Authority can reject such a declaration. It needs to be emphasised here that when the investigation is completed and true facts are unearthed, finding a public servant guilty of serious misconduct and a recommendation is made as provided under Sec 13, the same shall be mandatorily complied with. Indeed in the recent decision, the High Court has observed that the report submitted by the Lokayukta under Sec 12 shall be complied with and be made mandatory. This judgement certainly throws light on the new thinking regarding strengthening this institution, so that the elaborate exercise undertaken through the expert mechanism does not remain a mere recommendation, but is indeed acted upon so that true transformation in the functioning of the administration resulting in good governance takes place.

Karnataka Lokayukta Justice BS Patil chats with Express journalists at the TNIE office in Bengaluru | VINOD KUMAR T

Don't you think ministers and politicians are out of the Lokayukta net?

They are subject to the Lokayukta jurisdiction. If a complaint is given against public servants, we will consider it as per law. Public servants include the chief minister, the ministers, all elected representatives, government servants, members of local authority in the state or a statutory body or corporation established by the state law, etc. Any allegations against them are bound to be investigated in accordance with law. If a proper complaint is filed with details and supporting documents, however high the functionary is, the investigation will be taken up and law will take its course.

Is there any impediment to probing the PSI scam, which involves top, serving police officers?

No. But once a case is entrusted to a specific institution like CID or CBI, we are not supposed to run parallel inquiries and investigation. If it was handed over to us, we would have done it. All crimes committed need not be entrusted to the Lokayukta. The other institutions also require to show their ability and efficiency.

Assembly elections are approaching. Do you think your responsibility is going to be doubled as an anti-corruption agency?

Yes. We have our task cut out as per the provisions of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act and the Prevention of Corruption Act. We will initiate action against public servants. If the irregularity or misconduct pertains to election matters, the Election Commission has jurisdiction over it. As per Section 8(1)(b) of the Lokayukta Act, if there is an effective alternative remedy and if the matter pertains to grievance, we do not interfere, unless it involves allegations also.

What made you choose law?

I wanted to become a lecturer. In our village Padekanur in Vijayapura district, we had no school building. My primary schooling was in the chavadi or on the premises of the local Hanuman temple. When I went to Talikoti where I studied in high school, there was an English literature teacher who was teaching pre-university students. My father entrusted my responsibility to him and my room was just opposite his house. He started telling me about John Keats, PB Shelley and John Milton. I somehow formed a dream to do post-graduation in English literature to become a lecturer. But, after I did BA in English as a major subject, my father told me, "If you become a lecturer and start teaching somewhere in a different place, how are you going to manage the family, so you better do law." I accepted and studied law. I stood first in Karnataka University in final year law.

Which poem did you enjoy most?

Those days in Karnataka College, Dharwad, we had a learned teacher, KS Narayanachar, who was the HoD of the English department. He used to teach us about TS Eliot, William Wordsworth and PB Shelley. In my final year degree, I enjoyed The Waste Land by TS Eliot, Paradise Lost by John Milton, the blind poet, and also the poems of William Wordsworth.

Do you have time to read now?

I make time and keep reading. Every day, before I reach my office, I read at least a few pages of wisdom literature which inspires me.

Who is your role model?

My first role model is my father and then a number of teachers, judges and lawyers. Without a role model, we can't excel. Excellence can be achieved by pursuing dreams and goals.

When you took up the legal profession, did you have any particular dream of bringing change in one thing?

I never dreamt of becoming a judge, a Lokayukta or an Upa Lokayukta. As a judge, I always had the desire to contribute to the system by bringing values to young minds. That is how as president of the Karnataka Judicial Academy, I reached out to almost all judges working in various districts and taluks by organising workshops in different regions of the state and sharing with them the art, science and skill of judging and other principles of law. This gave me immense pleasure. As a lawyer, I used to teach law in KLE Evening Law College for about eight years. That is how it satisfied my hunger of becoming a lecturer.

Work unitedly: Kharge's message to state Cong leaders

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Kalaburagi

AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge and other senior Congress leaders in Kalaburagi on Saturday | MANJU JAMADAR

IN a stern message to party leaders in the state, AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge said here on Saturday that they should work unitedly to ensure the victory of Congress in the 2023 Assembly polls. He said focus should not be on who would become the chief minister or minister, but how to win polls.

"It is we, the Congress high command that will decide who will become the chief minister and ministers," he said after receiving a grand reception by District Congress Committees from seven districts of Kalyana Karnataka during his maiden visit to his Karma Bhumi Kalaburagi after assuming office as AICC president. He told the state party leaders, including former chief minister Siddaramaiah, KPCC president DK Shivakumar and others who were present at the programme, that their duty is to work hard, visit the entire state to convince people about the misrule and corruption of the present BJP government and tell them what Congress would do if it comes to power.

Kharge announced a 10-point package for the Kalyana Karnataka Region if Congress comes to power. The package involves providing Rs 5,000 crore every year for development works in the region, new industrial policy exclusively for the region, filling up of 1 lakh vacant posts within five years, completing all irrigation projects within the stipulated period, constitution of a committee to look into implementing promises made during elections, bringing pressure on the Centre to establish IIT, AIMS and other national-level institutions in the region, separate degree colleges for women in each Assembly constituency, houses for all houseless families within five years, providing sufficient grants to all gram panchayats and taking steps to bring the region on par with other parts of the state.

MES plans meet on Day 1 of winter session

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

AMID the ongoing tensions over the border row between Karnataka and Maharashtra, Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES) has decided to conduct 'Mahamelava', a pro-Maharashtra convention, at Belagavi on December 19 — the inaugural day of the winter session of the Karnataka legislature which will be held at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in the border city.

The Mahamelava will be held at the Vaccine Depot in Belagavi and several top politicians from Maharashtra, including CM Eknath Shinde, former CM Uddhav Thackeray and NCP supremo Sharad Pawar, have been invited by MES. Madhyavarthi Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti has already submitted a memorandum to the office of the Belagavi police commissioner informing him of the Mahamelava.

"The Karnataka government is finding it difficult to defend its stand on the matter in the court. Karnataka government is forcefully holding the winter session in Belagavi against the wishes of Marathi linguists. Therefore, Mahamelava, a convention of Marathi linguistics is planned for December 19, to express the wishes of the Marathis," the memorandum added.

According to sources, MES has invited two top brass leaders from every political party — Maharashtra CM Shinde, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackarey, DyCM from BJP Devendra Fadnavis, NCP leader Sharad Pawar, Maharashtra border in-charge ministers Chandrakant Patil and Shambhuraj Desai for the Mahamelava meet. However, none of these leaders visited Belagavi to attend the Mahamelava organised by the MES in the past. Only one or two legislators from neighbouring Kolhapur and Sangli districts have attended the meet.

MES leader and former MLA Manohar Kinekar said, "Like every year, this year too we have decided to hold Mahamelava in Belagavi to express our voice to the governments. We have invited all the top leaders of Maharashtra. We are aware that Karnataka police will not allow them to enter Belagavi. But, we are firm on conducting the meet."

BORDER SITUATION UNDER CONTROL: CM

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Monday had a telephonic conversation with Bommai and both agreed that law and order should be maintained in both the states, CM Basavaraj Bommai said on Saturday. The CM also said that the situation on the border is under control now and all buses have resumed operations.

Bommai slams Siddu for 'win without campaigning' remark

ENS @Mysuru, Mangaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Saturday hit back at CLP leader Siddaramaiah over his remark that the Congress will win the 2023 Assembly elections in Karnataka even without campaigning.

Bommai said Siddaramaiah made the statement as he is aware that he will not win the elections and his party will not get a majority in 2023. Speaking to reporters at Mysuru Airport before leaving for Suttur Mutt, Bommai said, "BJP is organising Jana Samparka programme and organising the party from the grassroots. We are giving more importance to party organisation in Old Mysuru region." He also rubbished speculation of early Assembly elections in Karnataka.

We have info on 15 terror sleeper cells in state: CM

"We have information about 15 terror sleeper cells and we have found out who are involved in. Some who had connections with such sleeper cells are in Tihar and other jails. The state and central agencies like the National Investigation Agency are further investigating their links and fund sources from abroad," said Bommai in Mangaluru on Saturday.

JANARDHANA REDDY WON'T FLOAT NEW PARTY: ASHOKA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Tumakuru

REVENUE Minister R Ashoka on Saturday expressed confidence that former minister Gali Janardhana Reddy will not leave BJP and float his own party as Transport Minister B Sriramulu has already spoken to him.

There are murmurs in the political corridors about Reddy, a mining baron, planning to launch a party and contest the 2023 Assembly elections. "He will not quit BJP and form his own party. Sriramulu has spoken to Reddy. I hope they will not create any confusion anymore," he told reporters at Sira after laying the foundation stone for a new sub-registrar's office.

Ashoka also said there is groupism in Karnataka Congress. "DK Shivakumar is sandwiched due to internal bickering in the KPCC... supporters of former DyCM Dr G Parameshwara want a Dalit as CM... Siddaramaiah's supporters are playing the Kuruba card," he said.

"As Siddaramaiah's team had defeated Parameshwara in the 2013 polls, the former has been finding it difficult to find a safe seat as the latter's team wants to defeat him. Shivakumar started dreaming of becoming the CM hoping that Siddaramaiah will lose the 2023 polls. In Congress, their leaders defeat each other," he elaborated.

The Thiruvananthapuram police are searching for four youths who allegedly assaulted a 15-year-old boy after he refused to smoke a ganja beedi they had offered on December 2. The accused are Sayed, Vishnu, Hussain, and Al Ameen, all from Ayiroor, and aged 18

MANDOUS MAYHEM LEAVES 5 DEAD IN TN

IT employee on night duty dies after a shard from broken windowpane pierces his stomach

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

FIVE persons died and two were declared brain-dead in Chennai and suburbs on Friday night and Saturday early morning in different rain-related incidents. Four were electrocuted, two were declared brain-dead in a wall-collapse and one died after shard from a broken windowpane in his office pierced his stomach.

A woman wades through a flooded Marina Beach on Saturday after Cyclone Mandous made landfall | MARTIN LOUIS

Madipakkam

A 42-year-old woman and her 25-year-old nephew were electrocuted at Ram Nagar in Madipakkam when the woman stepped on a live wire protruding from the ground on Friday night. Police said the duo, who were staying in a thatched house, took shelter in a car shed near their house, fearing their house would collapse. "Around 9pm, the duo reached the car shed but realised they had forgotten to bring their valuables. On their way back to the house, Lakshmi stepped on a live wire protruding from an underground junction box. Rajendran who tried to save her was also electrocuted," said a senior police officer.

Sriperumbudur

Two migrant labourers, returning home after work on Saturday early morning, were electrocuted after they came into contact with an overheard live wire near Sriperumbudur. Sudhan Kumar, 25, and Niranjan Kumar, 23, were cousins and natives of Bihar, police said.

The duo stayed at Pillaipakkam and worked at private company nearby. An old tree on the premises of a private school had fallen on an electric post and the snapped wire was hanging low. "The two failed to notice the wire and came into contact with it," police said.

Thoraipakkam

IT employee on night duty on Friday died after a shard from broken window pane in his office in Thoraipakkam pierced his stomach. Around 10.30pm, Vijayakumar noticed a long glass window panel swinging in the strong wind. While he was trying to close the window, the glass broke and a shard pierced his stomach. He died as no one was around to help him, police said.

Saidapet

A woman and her three-and-a-half-year-old daughter were declared brain-dead after the wall of nearby house fell on the roof of their house on Friday night. Police said K Lakshmi, 35, stayed with husband Kesava Vel, 40, and daughter K Kirthiga at Nerupumedu on Alandur Road in Saidapet. "Around midnight, the newly constructed balcony wall of a nearby house collapsed and fell on the asbestos sheet," police said. The family was rushed to Kilpauk medical college hospital. Lakshmi and Kirthiga were declared brain-dead.

OCEANSAT SENDS IMAGES OF CYCLONE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

TWO weeks after its launch, the Oceansat-3 (EOS-06) is already providing helpful imagery of Cyclone Mandous as it passed over the Bay of Bengal. The satellite was launched on November 26 on the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C54. EOS-06 is currently operational and sending back imagery on the status of the cyclone, as it made landfall.

The satellite is contributing to the services being provided by its operational predecessor Oceansat-2. However, the Oceansat-3 has an increased payload, carrying an Ocean Color Monitor (OCM-3), Sea Surface Temperature Monitor (SSTM), Ku-Band Scatterometer (SCAT-3) and Argos-4, a French data collection and location system.

Images provided by the satellite on Thursday showed the cloud structure of the cyclone. According to ISRO, the imagery was captured by the OCM-3 multi-spectral camera. "High winds associated with the cyclone centre could be well captured due to a unique combination of optical and microwave remote sensing-based data," ISRO stated.

Apart from providing information for the benefit of climate and meteorological applications, the Oceansat-3 is also key in recognising patterns and issues related to oceanography. EOS-06 identified algae bloom off of the coast of Argentina in the South Atlantic Ocean. According to ISRO data, the identified algae, Coccolithophore, can prove to be harmful. "It reduces the alkalinity of seawater and releases CO_2,," ISRO said.

IN 12 YRS, B'LURU SEES SECOND LOWEST MAXIMUM TEMP

Bengaluru : As the mercury level dips, data from India Meteorological Department (IMD), Bengaluru, on Saturday showed that Bengaluru has recorded a maximum temperature of 19.6 degrees Celsius, second-lowest maximum temperature for the city in the last 12 years. However, if the readings of KIA is taken into account, the maximum temperature recorded on Saturday of 18.7 degrees Celsius, will be the lowest maximum temperature recorded in the city over the last 12 years. The lowest maximum temperature of 19.4 degrees Celsius was recorded on December 4, 2016. Bengaluru city on Saturday morning recorded a minimum temperature of 16.8 degrees Celsius and a maximum of 21.8. The city also recorded 4.3 mm rainfall, HAL airport received 3.2 mm and international airport recorded 6.8 mm. IMD officials have forecast rainfall across Karnataka for the next two days. They have also issued an orange alert for most parts of Karnataka for the next 24 hours, and a yellow alert for December 12. The areas are - Bengaluru, Chitradurga, Tumakuru, Ramanagara, Kolar, Mandya, Kodagu, Hassan, Chikkamagalur, Chikkaballapur, Mysuru and Chamarajanagar. Officials attributed the rain to Mandous, which has now become a depression over north Tamil Nadu. As per IMD data, Rayalpadu in Kolar recorded 3cm of rainfall, while Chintamani in Chikkaballapur recorded 2cm rainfall. Davanagere recorded the lowest minimum temperature of 13.3 degrees Celsius.

Citizens pour out their woes on wrong parking, snarls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Citizens' Traffic Forum meeting, an initiative of newly appointed Special Commissioner (Traffic) MA Saleem, saw a good response from the public on Saturday. All the 44 traffic police stations across the city conducted the meeting. Saleem attended one such meeting in Jayanagar.

Saleem told The New Sunday Express that the response was good. "Most complaints were about wrong parking in residential areas. Traffic congestions during school timings was the major issue discussed during the meeting. Those who attended the meeting will get feedback about the action taken by the Jayanagar traffic police in the next meeting which will be on the second Saturday of next month. The meeting was successfully conducted at all the 44 traffic police stations in the city," he added.

"There were many people from resident welfare associations. There were discussions on issues related to Metro construction sites where barricading has been done. Some people complained about traffic issues caused by school buses. We will call a meeting of such schools and tell them about traffic problems that are happening because of their school buses. Some participants suggested one way in a few areas and we have to check if it is suitable. Wrong parking-related issues were also discussed. These participants will get proper feedback in the next meeting on what the traffic police have done. If there is no action by other civic agencies on the request made by the traffic police, even that will be informed in the next meeting," Sachin Ghorpade, DCP (Traffic North), said.

Kuldeep Kumar R Jain, DCP (Traffic West), also attended the meeting in the Jayanagar traffic jurisdiction. "There were many suggestions and feedback upon which we will work on. All the other traffic police stations had the same kind of interaction. Looking forward to some such interactions," the DCP tweeted.

The inspectors of all 44 traffic police stations attended the meetings in their respective police stations. In some places, the meetings were conducted at bigger venues as more crowds gathered. All grievances and were noted down by the traffic police as action taken report must be given in next meeting.

People share their grievances during the Citizens' Forum Traffic meeting with Basavanagudi Traffic Police officials in Bengaluru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Joy of seeing tigers brings poaching fear

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

INCREASED instances of tiger sightings by tourists in safari areas of the two prime tiger reserves Bandipur and Nagarhole have come as a joy and also worry for the state forest department.

While tourists are delighted, Karnataka forest department officials have intensified their vigil to prevent poaching and ensure safety of the animals. For those sharing pictures and videos of the majestic predators, forest officials are urging them to desist from sharing their location, which can facilitate poaching and cases of man-animal conflict.

"We are not going to increase the carrying capacity. With heavy rain and the increase in presence of cubs, we are working on restricting the number of entries," said a senior forest department official. "Instances of sightings of cubs in tourism and buffer zones have increased, because the population is also rising. But the magnitude will be known only after phase-4 of the camera trap data report. Data shows that the areas of tigers have also increased in tourism and buffer zones. So we are taking more steps to step up protection," said Bandipur Tiger Reserve director Ramesh Kumar.

After a tigress was caught in a snare in the buffer of Nagarhole, forest officials want to ensure that such an incident does not recur. Harshakumar Chikkanaragund, director, Nagarhole Tiger Reserve said the combing operations for snares and jaw traps have intensified.

LEOPARD ATTACKS 3

Tumakuru: Two minor boys are undergoing treatment at a government hospital in Koratagere after a leopard attacked them at Irakasandra early Saturday. Chetan and Dhanush, sons of farmer Kemparaju, were feeding a herd of cattle in the backyard of their home when the leopard attacked them. Later, Raju, 40, suffered bite injuries on his legs from a leopard. He was in his car but his legs were dangling outside the door. "Usually leopards target the neck, but he was bit in his legs. An operation is already under way to catch the feline," said Range Forest Officer HM Suresh.

Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, HUBLI-580 022. Ph:0836-2373348
ಸಂ.ಕಿಮ್ಸ್/ಹೂಪಿ(6)/238/2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 09-12-2022
ಇ- ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (CALL-02)
(ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್–04)
ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ–01 KIMS/SC-PKG-04/2022-23/Call-02
2022–23 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಕಿಮ್ಸ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ (ಪ್ಯಾರಾ ಮೇಡಿಕಲ್ ಸ್ಟಾಫ್) ಶುಶ್ರೂಷಕರು ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್–04 ರ ಅನುಭವಿ ಕೆಲಸಗಾರರ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಈ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ರೂ. 10.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಈ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು https://www.e-proc. karnataka.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
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KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,KNNL No.2 Canal Division, Oddarahatti Camp, Ph No: 08533-271361
State:Karnataka
No.KNNL/EE.2/TS/AE.1/Pickup /2022-23/1608 Date:07-12-2022
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION CALL-3
(Only through e-procurement system)
On behalf of the Managing Director KNNL Bangalore the Executive Engineer **No.2** Division Odderahatti the undersigned invites in www.e-proc.kar.nic.in percentage basis tenders in Two Cover from the eligible contractors/firm/Company registered under KPWD, bidder can access amount put to tender **Rs 649.90** lakhs and **EMD Amount Rs.9,75,000-00** with a stipulated period of **3 Months.** Calendar of events, the last date for submission of tender Dated:**20-12-2022** up to **4.30** PM and tender opening Technical Bid on Dated: **21-12-2022 at 4.40** PM and Financial Bid at **26-12-2022 at 11.00 AM** or After approval of Technical Bid respectively. Conditional tenders are liable to be rejected. The officer competent to accept the tender shall have the right to cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. For any other clarification/details contact **www.e-proc.kar.nic.in** or under signed office during office hours Contact No-08533-271361.
Sd/- Executive Engineer KNNL
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KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. VJP/MWD/EEE/2022-23/F-307, 274, 197 & 305/ 3637, 3638, 3639 & 3646 Date: 22.11.2022
PUBLIC CAUTION NOTICE
KPTCL, hereby notified for the information for the General Public that
1) Construction of 110KV LILO line from existing 110kV B.Bagewadi-Vijayapur SC line to the proposed 110/11kV **Nandiyal** sub-station for a distance of 0.929 km in B.Bagewadi Taluk, Vijayapur District. Nandiyal Vijayapura District. The line work is nearing completion and line will be charged on or after the date **20.12.2022.** The power line passes through Nandyal and Yaranal village limit.
2) Construction of 110KV SC line on DC towers from 110kV Inchageri sub-station to proposed 110/1kV **Jigajevanagi** sub-station for a distance of 8.124 Kms and construction of one number of 110kV Terminal Bay at 110kV Inchageri sub-station Indi (Chadachan) Taluk, Vijayapur District. The line work is nearing completion and line will be charged on or after the date **12.12.2022.** The power line passes through Jigajevanagi and Inchageri village limit.
3) Construction of 110KV SC line on DC towers from existing 110kV Chadachan sub-station to proposed 110/1kV **Kerur** sub-station for a distance of 13.536 Kms along with construction of 110KV Terminal Bay at 110kV Chadachan sub-station for termination of 110kV SC line from proposed 110/11KV Kerur sub-station in Chadachan Taluk, Vijayapur District. The line work is nearing completion and line will be charged on or after the date **15.12.2022.** The power line passes through Chadachan, Gudihal, Kanchanal and Kerur village limit.
4) Construction of 110KV SC line (2 Phase) on DC towers from existing 110/11kV **Malaghan** KPTCL sub-station to proposed B.Bagewadi Road (Telagi) Railway traction sub-station for a distance of 11.840 Kms for arranging of power supply to an extent of 5000kVA load on 110kV reference, in favour of the Divisional Railway Manager (Traction Distribution) SWR Hubballi Division, for railway traction EHT installation site near B.Bagewadi-Hotagi section in B.Bagewadi Taluk, Vijayapur District on Total Turnkey basis. The line work is nearing completion and line will be charged on or after the date **15.12.2022.** The power line passes through Malaghan, Masuti and Telagi village limit.
The general public are here by requested to keep away from this line and they are also requested not to tie the animals to the towers, not to throw green sticks, wires on the line, and not to climb towers of the line. KPTCL will not be held responsible for any accidents which may occur due to violation of the above said instruction.
Sd/- **Executive Engineer, Engineer, El., Major Works Division, KPTCL, Vijayapur.**

Vax deal: HC relief for Bharat Biotech

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court dismissed a petition filed by United Brothers Healthcare Services Private Limited, a super-speciality hospital in south Bengaluru, seeking to quash a supply agreement and also recovery of Rs 1.69 crore from Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) as compensation for expiry of Covaxin doses.

"This court would not issue a writ that would interfere with a private contract between two private entities. It is for the petitioner (hospital) to avail all such remedy, as is available in law seeking recovery of money. Writ petition for recovery of money by a private entity from another private entity arising out of a private contract cannot be entertained", said Justice M Nagaprasanna.

According to the petition, BBIL entered into an agreement with the petitioner for supply of 25,000 doses of Covaxin and the invoice amount of Rs 2,62,50,000 was agreed to be paid in advance.

From September 9, 2021, it is contended, the petitioner sent e-mails and made phone calls to the BBIL expressing its helplessness in pushing Covaxin to public owing to negative publicity. Therefore, the entire stock of vaccines given to the petitioner by the BBIL was set to expire and no steps were taken by the BBIL to either compensate the petitioner or to take back the vaccine.

3 held in AP in builder shooting case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

The incident of shooting a rowdy sheeter-turned-builder and his driver has been solved with the arrest of his three rivals. The accused opened fire at the builder to avenge a 11-year-old murder.

The arrested are Manoj Kumar, Jayaprakash and Praveen. The four teams that were formed to trace the accused arrested them at Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh.

Around 3 pm on Thursday, the accused had opened fire at Shivashankar Reddy, 29, and his driver Ashok Reddy, 33, at Kurudu Sonnenahalli. The builder was supervising the work when the accused who had come on two bikes opened fire. Both Shivashankar and Ashok are out of danger.

Shivashankar is from Tummalapalli in Vanamareddygarupalli of Chittoor. He and his father Jayachandra Reddy had issues with their neighbour Bayya Reddy. In 2011, the father and son had reportedly killed Bayya. Later, Bayya's associates had murdered Jayachandra.

"Bayya's associates found out that Shivashankar was hatching a plot to eliminate them in revenge for his father's murder. They got to know that Shivashankar was constructing an apartment in KR Puram and came here to kill him," said an officer, who is part of the investigation.

Despite suffering bullet injuries, the driver managed to drive to the hospital. The builder has six cases of heinous crimes registered at the Mudivedu police station of Chittoor, three separate cases in Madanapalle, Tummalapalli and Whitefield police stations.

EXPRESS READ

Akasa Air flight to B'luru from Vizag

VISAKHAPATNAM: All necessary assistance will be extended to airlines to start new flight services in the State, said Minister for IT and Industries Gudivada Amarnath. Launching the inaugural flight service of Akasa Air from Vizag to Bengaluru here on Saturday, he said more incentives will be provided to the airlines to operate new flight services from the six airports in the State. Akasa Air is operating to and from Visakhapatnam to Bengaluru flight service in the evening and morning.

HC orders panel for man's autopsy

CHENNAI: The Madras HC on Saturday directed the deans of government medical colleges in Madurai, Tiruchy and Thanjavur to form a panel of doctors to conduct an autopsy on Sembulingam, a farmer of Ariyalur district, who died on December 5 after being allegedly assaulted by police. Hearing a plea filed by Karthikeyan, a relative of Sembulingam, at his residence, Justice G Chandrasekharan gave the directions.

HC raps BDA for being callous, imposes cost of ₹5L

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court imposed a cost of Rs 5 lakh on the Bangalore Development Authority terming its approach callous.

Dismissing an appeal filed by the BDA commissioner against the decree passed by a city civil judge in 2011 on an original suit filed by S Venkatarama Reddy and his sister, Justice V Srishananda observed that BDA acted in a manner worse than an ordinary litigant and the cost should be paid to plaintiffs.

The court said the BDA, being a statutory body, is expected to process the application filed by the plaintiffs for seeking permission to develop the land in pursuance of the government order. The appellant, BDA, not only failed to do so, but also took a false contention that the acquisition proceedings are completed, the court added.

"BDA is established by taxpayers' money. Needless to emphasise that the expenses of the employees and other incidental expenses of such a statutory body are met by taxpayers' money. The action of the BDA should be in consonance to advance the cause of justice," the court observed.

It said such litigants, if allowed to go scotfree would not only encourage unscrupulous elements to try their luck with similar petitions resulting in a burden to justice dispensation but also result in loss of confidence in public about the efficacy of institution. It is the duty of this court to check such litigants by saddling appropriate exemplary costs, it added.

Vote for the man who promises least; he'll be the least disappointing

Bernard Baruch

DEBATES, DEFICITS & 4.88 Cr PENDING COURT CASES

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR
Author of The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution, and Accidental India
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TO no one will we sell, to no one will we deny or delay right or justice'. The promise made over 800 years ago in the Magna Carta in 1215 forms the template for justice delivery in written and unwritten constitutions of democracies around the world. It is also the mother lode for aphorisms such as 'justice delayed is justice denied'.

This week saw the revival of the debate over the politics and deficits that detain the delivery of the promise. The stage seems set for another round of contestations between the government and the judiciary. On Tuesday, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju pointed out that the "number of pending cases is inching towards the five crore mark" and observed "it is a matter of great concern".

Successive regimes have fervently argued that the delivery of justice is daunted by the faultlines in the administration of the judiciary. The proposed solution, the creation of the National Judicial Appointment Commission was shot down by the Supreme Court. On Wednesday, in his maiden address in Parliament Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar slammed the 2015 Supreme Court verdict that struck down the National Judicial Appointment Commission (NJAC) bill as a glaring instance of "severe compromise of parliamentary sovereignty and disregard of people's mandate".

It is true that one of the issues haunting disposal of cases is the gap in capacity for adjudication. And this is aggravated by the tussle between the government and the judiciary on the mechanism for judicial appointments. In October this year,Justice Ramana, the then Chief Justice of India, stated that the government had cleared seven of 106 names recommended by the Supreme Court collegium for higher judiciary.

Consider the data on vacant posts of judges across the three tiers of judiciary. As of November 2022, six of the 34 posts in the Supreme Court and ONE third or 335 of 1,108 sanctioned posts for judges in High Courts are vacant. The gap is worse in lower courts where the onus for appointments rests with state governments and high courts. The government informed Parliament that of the 24,521 sanctioned posts in subordinate courts, 5,180 are vacant – a third or 1,106 of the 3,634 posts in Uttar Pradesh are NOT FILLED.

As the debate on suzerainty continues, the spectre of denial on the ground is stark. There are over 4.88 crore cases pending across courts. Of these 69,598 cases pending in the Supreme Court, over 11,000 are pending for over 10 years. The number of cases pending in high courts is 59,54,550 of which 10.37 lakh cases await disposal for over 10 years. The picture is worse in district and taluka courts where there are over 4.28 crore pending cases of which over 20 lakh cases FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS.

Pendency is worsened not just by availability of judges but more critically by systemic deficits in the administrative landscape. There are over 3.19 crore criminal cases pending in courts. In many of them, Justice Gogoi had observed in 2018, even the issue of summons has not been completed. MEANWHILE, over 3.71 lakh undertrials are lodged in prisons. Disposal of cases depends on the process of investigation and the capacity of the police and the state machinery.

On the civil side beyond the individual and private entities, there is the reality of the litigious government. In August 2022, the government informed the Lok Sabha that ministries and departments of the Union government are litigants in as many as 5.95 lakh cases are pending before the Supreme Court, high courts, district courts and tribunals. In December 2022 as per the data put out by the Law Ministry's Legal Information Management & Briefing System, the number of pending cases stood at 6.17 lakh. Mind you this is just CASES OF THE Union government as data on state governments is not collated.

The rise in the number of cases also SIGNALS the need to clean up the legislative and regulatory landscape. Rishi Agarwal of Avantis Regtech who tracks regulatory compliances points out that businesses are required to comply with 1,536 laws, 69,233 compliances and 6,618 filings. There are 843 laws at the Centre and states with over 26,000 compliances which carry the threat of imprisonment. Juxtapose this on the multiplicity of ministries in any one domain – water for instance is governed by six ministries, healthcare by multiple ministries in the state and in the Union government.

There is a cost being paid by the economy for the delays. There is no shortage of literature and studies on what needs to be done. There is the capacity issue and as the Economic Survey 2017-18 argued, pendency can be mitigated "by merely filling out the vacancies in the lower courts and in the high courts". There is also the question of cleaning up the legal landscape to curb the incidence of cases sprouting from punctuations and political opportunism.

The UPSURGE IN PENDING cases has long-term implications as it impacts harmony, stability and sustainability. The Constitution of India, in the Preamble, guarantees all its people justice, liberty and equality. The sequence is important. It is the promise of justice which scaffolds the guarantee of liberty and equality.

EXECUTIVE, JUDICIARY MUST UPHOLD CONSTITUTION

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA
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IN Indian democracy, the catechism of culpability is currently probing the motivations of two important institutions. Who will judge the judges? Who will govern the government? These questions define the power struggle between the judiciary and the executive; one defends its authority while the other imposes it. With omniscient leaders pursuing their vision of history, the establishment is determined to extend its control over all institutions, including the judiciary. Convention, caution and calmness have given way to activist aggression after prominent political paladins and including an erudite and outstanding advocate, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, unprecedentedly questioned the right of judges to define judicial architecture.

So what's the current ballyhoo about? A three member Collegium headed by the Chief Justice of India selects the names of judges proposed by a collegium of High Court judges. But neither a High Court nor the Supreme Court will consider a name until it has collected all relevant information about each candidate through Central and state government agencies or its internal mechanism. The founding fathers of the Constitution, espousing the separation of powers and checks and balances, may not have envisaged a legislature and executive becoming more powerful than the judiciary. Of late, judicial pronouncements about excessive executive power and legislative overreach are met with savage scorn and pugnacious powerplay, although none of the stakeholders is seeking accountability for the number of cases rising nationwide, massive judicial vacancies, an expensive and exclusive legal system, the erosion of institutional integrity and collapsing court infrastructure. Instead, the legislative is intent on packing the benches and appointing an ideologically committed judiciary. The government is in no mood to accept the judiciary's supremacy over issues in the executive domain. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, himself a lawyer by profession, vented, "The historic NJAC Bill, passed unanimously by the Parliament, was undone by the Supreme Court using the judicially evolved doctrine of 'Basic Structure' of Constitution. There is no parallel to such a development in the democratic history of the world. A glaring instance of severe compromise of parliamentary sovereignty and disregard of the mandate of the people. We need to bear in mind that in a democracy, 'Basic' of any 'Basic Structure' is the primacy of the mandate of the people reflected in the Parliament". His comments reflect the disposition of the political class and a section of civil society. Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, another advocate by education, firmly believes that the collegium system is alien to the Constitution. He warned, "Never say that the government is sitting on the files, then don't send the files to the government, you appoint yourself, you run the show then". The Supreme Court was outraged. Its second senior most judge Sanjay Kishan Kaul reportedly told Attorney General R. Venkataramani: "I have ignored all press reports, but this has come from somebody high enough……" and "If we have to, we will take a decision." During a hearing Justice Kaul and Justice Abhay S. Oka pronounced, "If we look at the position of pending cases for consideration, there are 11 cases pending with the government which were cleared by the Collegium and yet are awaiting appointments. The oldest of them is of vintage September 4, 2021 as the date of dispatch and the last two on September 13, 2022. This implies that the government neither appoints the persons nor communicates its reservation, if any, on the names." Since the Supreme Court struck down the 99th Constitutional Amendment 2014, which sought to replace the collegium system with National Judicial Appointments Commission (NCJA), it has been at loggerheads with the government. The standoff led to massive vacancies in the lower judiciary and High Courts. Over 40 per cent of High court vacancies were vacant at one point.

Before 1991, High Court judges were chosen by the respective High Court's Chief Justices, but the final say lay with the Chief Minister and the governor, who would forward the names to the Centre. The executive could veto names, leading to undesirable and politically connected persons infiltrating the judicial system. Intelligence reports on prospective judges were mostly drafted in the offices of CMs, the Union Law Minister and the Home Minister to assure the selection of favourites and rejection of adversaries.

Subsequently, in three different verdicts, the Supreme Court took away the executive's judicial appointment powers and set up the Collegium. From 1998 to 2014, politicians ranted against the judiciary usurping the powers of the legislature and the executive when the SC began to reject government-sponsored names. After Narendra Modi's sweeping victory in 2014, the NJAC Act, which tilted the balance of power in favour of the executive, was deployed. A major section of the legal community suspects that the government's intention to change the system emanates from the fact that by 2024, 19 of the 32 odd Supreme Court judges and over half of the High Court vacancies would be filled under Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud. While its members keep changing, Chandrachud will continue to preside over the Collegium. The briefness of CJI Uday Umesh Lalit's term prevented appointments due to disagreements among Collegium members. A litany of uncharitable views about the Supreme Court castigating the government over the protection of human rights followed. For example, SC kept in abeyance the amendment to section 124A of the IPC, which granted police unbridled powers to detain government critics. Since the government will make crucial legislation and decisions over the next two years, politicians feel that a system is needed where elected representatives have a say in selecting judges who won't block populist welfare schemes and crucial legislation without proper explanation. While the SC feels that it has the power to lay down the law, the executive considers it an encroachment on the powers of the legislature.

Imposing legislature complete supremacy has dangerous implications. The elected executive represents less than 50 per cent of votes polled by the winning party. An independent institution like the Supreme Court scrutinizes its actions and ensures Constitutional integrity. The top Indian judiciary currently enjoys much more credibility and respect than those who make and implement the law. It represents the entire India, and not an ideology (100 per cent of voters) is required to check the authoritarian avarice. In a democracy, unbridled power is toxic. Any assertion that enshrines executive veto and abrades accountability debases the very idea of democracy. This applies equally to the judiciary. The ongoing battle, if not resolved amicably, will devastate the eroding credibility of both and sow chaos. To scrub clean the high walls of justice stained by self-serving or inept judges, slavish magistrates and a pliable police force, the purity of justice must be restored at all highest levels. It is the executive's responsibility to uphold the reputation of institutions, not upend it. It is the judiciary's obligation to let the legislative have its legal say. Repair the bridge between the two. The rest will follow.

CHRONICLER OF KOLATTHUNADU

A COUNTRY OF MANY GODS

DR JAYARAM PODUVAL
Department of Art History& Aesthetics
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda

NOVEMBER 17, 2022, was the 115th birth anniversary of a scholar, writer, musicologist and the pioneer of folklore studies in Malabar, Chirakkal T Balakrishnan Nair. Though not trained as a folklorist or anthropologist, Balakrishnan Nair, a school teacher at Rajas High School, Chirakkal, Kannur District, looked around for the unexplored treasure trove of literature in the folk tradition and started collecting them. He consulted with the performers of Theyyam, Kothaamoori, and other folk arts, collecting hundreds of songs. He systematically annotated and collated them with historical records, making the collection a must-read for history, literature and folklore scholars.

Born in the Kolatthunadu, the region ruled by the Kolatthiris, Balakrishnan Nair was the son of the ruling Kolatthiri king, Ayilyam Tirunal Ramavarma Valiya Raja. He studied at Madras Presidency College and Loyola College. Though he got jobs including one at the government press in Madras and offers to work in Mombasa, East Africa, he followed the path of "Gandhi and Bhagavat Gita". He was active in the Home Rule movement of Dr Annie Besant and the Congress Movement from his student days. He dedicated his life to the nationalist movement in Malabar, which was at its peak under the leadership of K Kelappan. After the Indian Independence, at 41, Balakrishnan Nair took a degree in Education [B.T. (B.Ed.)] and joined as a teacher at a school run by his family. He continued his political activity, influenced by the socialist ideology of Jayaprakash Narayan and helped build the Indian Socialist Party in Kerala.

From the 1940s to 1970s, he dedicated himself to the folklore and historical research of north Malabar, the erstwhile Kolatthu Nadu. The region comprises present-day Kannur district and parts of Kasaragod and Wayanad districts and is rich with ritualistic folk-dance forms like Theyyam and Kothaamoori and forms of singing like Kolkali and Poorakkali. All these forms possess their literature which is performed as orpaattus. For example, the artist who performs the Theyyam of Kativanur Veeran will sing and enact the whole story of the deity before the main performance. The drummers and other supporting singers will join him in this performance. These are thottams; the prelude to the performance, a metamorphosis from man to God. The lyrics of these thottams are composed by poets who hail from other castes. The performing communities preserve these verses through oral tradition over generations. Some are composed like small kavyas with proper narration, description of the landscape, rituals, etc. For instance, Kadangott Maakka Pothi [Bhagavati] Thottam narrates the story of Makkam from the day her mother Unni Chiriya prays to the goddess for a girl child to continue the family legacy [in accordance to the matriarchal system followed by Nambiars of North Malabar]. Most of these poems are written in the North Kerala parlance of Malayalam, which is hardly spoken by the modern generation.

Some of these forms are almost on the verge of extinction, like the Kothaamoori, where the hymns describe the arrival of goddess Annapoornesvari to Kolatthunadu from Aryanadu, probably Kashi in north India. For that, she orders a ship to be made by Visvakarma himself. The song melodiously describes the shipbuilding, details of the retinue and the travel through the Dark Sea, Blood Sea and Lotus Sea. She finally arrives in Cherukunnu [in Kannur District] and makes the place her domain. Then the poem drifts into the love story of Annapoornesvari, a manifestation of Parvati and Siva, the cardinal deity of Raja Rajesvara Temple at Taliparamabu [Kannur District]. Kothaamoori was performed by the Malaya community during the Malayalam month of Tula [October-November], visiting individual homes of the villages. I saw them in my childhood, but now it has disappeared from my region. The songs of Kothaamoori also vanished from public memory, and the only source of retrieving them is through the collection Balakrishnan Nair compiled.

The annotations, published along with the collection of these songs, reveal Nair as a keen observer of the history and ethnography of North Malabar. In the magnum opuses of Kerala history, North Malabar hardly gets a mention, except for the secret meeting of Kolatthiri and Vasco Da Gama or maybe discussing the clash between Pazhassi Raja and the British. Kerala historians seldom used the literary sources from these collections of poems from Kolatthunadu to reconstruct the history of the region. "Balakrishnan Nair has written a 2000-page manuscript on Kerala history which was destroyed by the author himself," writes C P Sreedharan in the preface to "Keralabhasha Ganangal" [Published by Kerala Sahitya Akademi, 1979].

If it had survived, it would have been the best chronicle of Kolatthu Nadu.

(jpoduval@gmail.com)

QUOTE CORNER

I accept there will be people who fundamentally disagree with what I've done and how I've done it (leaving the royal family). But I knew that I had to do everything I could to protect my family, especially after what happened to my mum

Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex

Workers' death has been a big subject during the World Cup. Everything that has been said about workers' deaths has been absolutely false. We're a bit disappointed that the journalists have been exacerbating this false narrative

Nasser Al Khater, Qatar 2022 World Cup chief executive

I mean there are definitely a few injury concerns. We need to try and get to the bottom of it. I don't know what exactly it is. Maybe they're playing too much cricket. We need to try and monitor those guys, because it's important to understand when they come for India, they need to be a 100 per cent

Rohit Sharma, Captain, Indian cricket team

MAILBAG

WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Confronting sexism

The psyche of male is well exposed in the editorial, 'Confront sexism to keep women safe' (Dec 10). This characteristic remains dormant or lurks somewhere and gets aroused whenever a female is found in a vulnerable situation like that of the Korean tourist. The remedy lies in spirituality and fear of God and these can be imbibed only by parents.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

Taint on culture

Ref. to 'Confront sexism to keep women safe' (Dec 10). It is undeniable that tourism is one of the major revenue earners to all countries and that foreign tourists are major contributors to our economy. Sexual abuse of foreign women tourists is a taint on our culture. Such incidents spread globally quickly due to social media. Earlier also in Mumbai, sexual harassment of foreign tourists have taken place. India is feted globally for our multiculturalism and peaceful co-existence. It is the responsibility of the ruling parties to see that such incidents do not recur in the future. The editorial rightly cautioned that the incident cannot be treated as a case of mere eveteasing.

S Arjun Prasanna, Bengaluru

Croatia's victory

Apropos of 'Football, Bloody hell!' (Dec 10). In FIFA World CUP, spectacular performance of Croatia by ousting Brazil was unbelievably startling. The whole episode exemplifies inherent charm of excitement in football. It is the sheer excitement and unpredictability of the game that makes football a universally popular game.

Jayashree Thampi, Thiruvananthapuram

Kejriwal's feat

Apropos of 'Aam Aadmi Party aiming for pole position in 2024' (Dec 10). The columnist has aptly pointed out how Arvind Kejriwal has projected himself to be different from other leaders. His entry into politics as a former bureaucrat has infused hope among voters that he would deliver a corruption-free dispensation. His calm interactions with the press as well as at public meetings reveal that he is not for demagogy in politics. His daring contest in 2014 in Varanasi against PM Modi showed he is a publicity expert. While other political parties have dragged their feet to enter new terrains, Kejriwal has been bold enough to contest in Punjab and in Gujarat, securing 13% votes. The article rightly stated that it is not BJP but AAP which became the Terminator for the Congress. Regional parties are wary that AAP may try the Gujarat experiment in their states also.

R Sridharan, Chennai

AAP's rise

Apropos of 'Meteoric rise of Aam Aadmi party in 10 years' (Dec 9) has painted only a partial picture of AAP. No doubt, the party has succeeded in winning people's hearts in some places. The emergence of Arvind Kejriwal happened as an anti-corruption crusader. But now his interest has shifted to Hindutva, obviously a dishonest imitation of BJP. By wanting to print images of Hindu deities on currency notes and allowing free pilgrimages to Ayodhya, wasn't he thinking of outwitting BJP? Where's the sincerity of purpose? People can't be fooled all the time.

Athulya M, Hyderabad

Gujarat polls

While it was a Himalayan victory for the BJP in the Gujarat assembly elections, the stunner by the Congress in Himachal can't be overlooked. The star campaigner was Priyanka Gandhi in Himachal. The Congress under the leadership of Kharge can use this as a positive reference to keep Rahul behind in many states as a strategy to bring Priyanka to the front. Priyanka, like her grandmother, can emerge as a powerful leader if she familiarises herself with grassroots politics.

A P Thiruvadi, Chennai

Congress in Himachal

Congrats to the Congress for its success in Himachal Pradesh. The Bharat Jodo Yatra of Rahul Gandhi can be partially attributed to the Congress win in the state. Whoever wins must walk their talk, because people hope for change.

John S, email

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Narendra Modi @narendramodi
Governors, LGs and CMs shared their rich insights on the preparedness of the states. I also talked about the need to document the experiences of the states.

Digvijaya Singh @digvijaya_2
When the country calls, why not join? Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir till India connects.

Manish Sisodia @msisodia
Being a soldier of Kejriwal ji is a great fortune as well as an important challenge. Love of the people of Delhi and the country is always with us.

Can pvt member UCC bill take shape of law?

While Opposition members seek withdrawal of BJP MP's bill, experts say such bills also become laws, but rarely

PREETHA NAIR @chennai

The debate on Uniform Civil Code (UCC) has gained momentum after a BJP MP introduced a private member bill on UCC in the Rajya Sabha amid protests from many Opposition parties. Though private member bills raraely become law, the move by the MP assumes significance as he was defended by the government in the Upper House. Till now, only 14 such bills have become Acts and the last such occasion was in 1970.

Private member bills are introduced by MPs, from either the ruling or the Opposition parties other than ministers. It becomes a law if it gets passed in both the houses.

According to PRS Legislative Research (PRS), a think tank, only 14 private member bills have been passed by both the Houses since 1952.

The Uniform Civil Code in India Bill, 2020 moved by MP Kirodi Lal Meena seeks to provide for a panel to prepare a Uniform Civil Code to be implemented across the country.

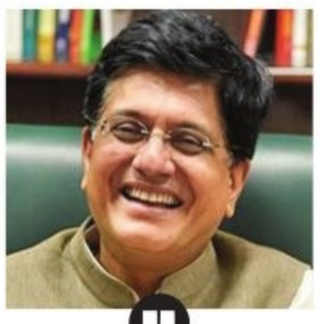
Criticising the Opposition's demand for withdrawal of the bill, Union Minister Piyush Goel said, "Let this subject be debated. At this stage, to cast aspersion on this and to use the names of the very members of the Constituent Assembly to try to criticise (the bill) is uncalled for," he said.

As Opposition parties view the private member bill on UCC as the 'government's tactic to test the waters', experts point out that unless the government adopts such a bill, it is rejected or withdrawn in a majority of cases. Former secretary-general of Lok Sabha PDT Achary explains this: "If the government adopts the PMB, it can be passed in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Then, it can become law after getting assent from the President," he said.

"Another possibility is that the government may agree with the spirit of the bill and introduce a comprehensive bill. I have seen many such cases during my stint," he said.

M R Madhavan, president of PRS Legislative Research points out that though DMK MP Tiruchi Siva's private member bill on 'Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, was passed in the Rajya Sabha by a unanimous voice vote in 2015, it was not passed by the Lok Sabha.

"The government passed the 'Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill' in 2019 inspired by Siva's private member bill. But it was a different bill," he said.



Let this subject be debated. At this stage, to cast aspersion on this and to use the names of the very members of the Constituent Assembly to try to criticise (the bill) is uncalled for

Piyush Goel, Union Minister

One possibility is that the government may agree with the spirit of the bill and introduce a comprehensive bill. I have seen many such cases during my stint (as secretary-general of LS)

PDT Achary, ex-secy general, LS

The government passed the 'Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill' in 2019 inspired by an MP's private member bill. But it came out with a different bill of its own

M R Madhavan, chief, PRS Research

B H UBPHEUNPDERNAD R A T E L

A SOFT & FIRM 'GRANDFATHER' AT HELM OF GUJARAT

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA
@ Ahmedabad

SOURAV ROY

HE is a 'grandfather' for his constituents, and a 'boy next door' for the residents of his old neighbourhood. Political experts see him as the captain who has managed to keep the ship steady while the storm passed. Prime Minister Narendra Modi commends him for being mrudu (soft) as well as makkam (firm).

Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel arrived on the grand scene suddenly. In a state that's constantly under the shadow of the two most influential politicians in the country today, he became a quiet force in one year, during which he steered the party through crests and troughs. Patel won from the Ghatlodia constituency by a staggering margin of 1.91 lakh votes in the Gujarat Assembly elections this time.

Patel's name, however, did not sound familiar to many outside his region until August 2021, when he became yet another surprise pick of the Modi-Shah leadership to take up a top post. After the resignation of the then Gujarat chief minister Vijay Rupani, amid the raging speculations about his successor's name, it was with much curiosity that the Bharatiya Janata Party MLAs assembled at the party headquarters in Gandhinagar. Senior BJP leaders Narendra Singh Tomar and Tarun Chugh had landed in Gujarat as observers to finalise the CM candidate's name. Rupani and state BJP president CR Patil reached the venue on the day of the announcement. Patel took a seat in the last row of the hall. He had no inkling that it would be his name being announced. Patel was sworn in as the 17th chief minister of Gujarat on September 13, 2021.

His selection was said to be the BJP brass' bid to reach out to the Patidar voters. Patel belongs to the Kadva Patidar community, considered the party's core vote bank.

Over the next few months, the 60-year-old politician did not disappoint the leadership, or his supporters, many of whom describe him as someone who makes decisions slowly and steadily. Under his leadership, Gujarat has tackled floods, public protests over several issues, the outbreak of lumpy skin disease, a hooch tragedy that left 42 people dead in the dry state, and huge hauls of heroin at the Mundra port. Just before the Assembly election, brickbats came in quick succession with the remission of the life sentences of the 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano case, and the Morbi bridge collapse. Patel kept a calm demeanour throughout, finally seeing the BJP cruise to a massive victory.

Patel, who holds a diploma in civil engineering from Government Polytechnic, Ahmedabad, forayed into social work at an early age. His father, Rajnikant Patel, was a school principal. He now runs Vihan Associates, a construction company managed by Patel's only son Anuj and son-in-law. The firm, renamed Ansh Construction after Patel's grandson, handles commercial and residential projects.

Patel spent his childhood at Kadvapol, in Ahmedabad's Walled City, where people still call him "Kadvapol na Ladkwaya (beloved person of Kadvapol)". After finishing college, he worked at a private construction company for 3-4 years, before launching Vardan Tower, a residential project in Naranpura, in partnership with eight of his college friends. The RSS member moved out of the Walled City in the 1990s, and began his political career, becoming a member of the Memnagar municipality in 1995-96. He became the chairman of the local body during 1999-2000 and 2004-2006. Later, he served as a corporator from Thaltej ward from 2010 to 2015.

NEWSMAKER

Patel, considered a loyalist of Uttar Pradesh Governor and former Gujarat chief minister Anandiben Patel, became a legislator for the first time in 2017, winning the election from Ghatlodia with 1,17,000 votes.

Under Patel's leadership, the BJP has performed well in the two elections it faced: the Gandhinagar Municipal Corporation, and the 9,000 gram panchayats. While the BJP won 41 of the 44 seats in the civic body, it is estimated to have bagged over 70% of the gram panchayat seats. In the recent Assembly election, 19 out of the 20 ministers have won.

A man of few words, Patel is also a yoga enthusiast, and enjoys playing badminton and cricket. The people of Gujarat are likely to have higher hopes now, since unlike his last innings, Patel would be on a familiar pitch this time.

CBI books ex-CMD of BEL for 'favour' in defence project

AMIT MUKHERJEE @New Delhi

IN one of the recent actions against senior government officials, the Central Bureau of Investigation this week registered an FIR against former CMD of Bharat Electronics Limited (PSU under Defence Ministry), Sunil Kumar Sharma, under charges of corruption for allegedly favouring a private company over several years and awarding it contracts worth crores in the Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS) project of the Indian Air Force.

The CBI on 7 December, registered a case against Sharma and several other government was the GM & the then CMD NCS (Network Centring System), Bharat Electronic Limited, Ghaziabad, Ministry: Ministry of Defence 8 other individuals including 5 officials of the BEL, for extending undue favours to RD Konsultants, to bag contracts worth over ₹1500 crores. The CBI alleged that Sharma and other officials of BEL has been going out of the way to help R.D. Konsultants, since 2011, when he was the GM & CMD of Network Centring System (NCS), BEL, Ghaziabad. The CBI in the FIR alleged that the company was extended favour by Sharma even in 2016 when he had become the CMD of BEL.

The RD Konsultants prepared the preliminary project report PPR, DPR and was awarded several civil construction contracts at the IACCS sites. Along with Sharma, the CBI has named five other government officials including, RK Handa, former GM, NCS, BEL, SS Chowdhary NCS, BEL, the then Sr. DGM (Marketing-NCS), Gurjit Singh, former Sr. DGM (CS), BEML, Ghaziabad, BP Pahuja, the then AGM (Infra-NCS), BEL and presently working as General Manager (Engineering Services), BEL Complex, Bangalore, Karnataka and Manish Goyal, the then Manager (Infra) Presently DGM (Infra-NCS), BEL, Ghaziabad. The others named are Suresh Kumar Anand, partner RD Konsultants, Shri Sudhir Kumar Marwaha, Director SR Ashok & Associates, Rahul Bhuchar, Director CS Construction and their respective companies.

The case came to light last year, following a reference from Gokul Nagarkoti, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Defence, when a Preliminary Enquiry was registered on Nov. 2021 against unknown officials of BEL, R.D.Konsultants and others.

Review age of consent: CJI to Parliament

SHRUTI KAKKAR @New Delhi

SHARING the difficulty faced by judges in dealing with cases falling under the POCSO Act where consenting adolescents engage in sexual activity, Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Saturday urged the legislature to consider relooking at the age of consent under the 2012 Act. The POCSO Act criminalises all sexual activity for those under the age of 18 regardless of consent.

"The POCSO Act criminalises all sexual activity for those under the age of 18 regardless of whether consent is factually present between the two minors... In my time as a judge, I have observed that this category of cases poses difficult questions for judges across the spectrum. There is growing concern surrounding this issue, which must be considered by the legislature in light of reliable research by experts in adolescent healthcare," the CJI said in his keynote address at an event organised by the SC Committee on Juvenile Justice in association with Unicef.

EXPRESS READ

Varanasi-TN train to mark Samagam fest

New Delhi: A new train service will soon be announced between Kashi and Tamil Nadu to commemorate the ongoing Kashi-Tamil Samagam. The month-long Kashi Tamil Sangama is being held in Varanasi after PM inaugurated it on Nov 19 for strengthening the cultural bonds between the people of Kashi and Tamil Nadu.

SC to consider Bilkis plea against rapists' remission on Dec 13

SHRUTI KAKKAR @New Delhi

THE Supreme Court will consider on December 13 Bilkis Bano's plea challenging the release of 11 convicts who walked free on August 15, 2022 when the country was celebrating 76th Independence Day. Bilkis was gang raped by a mob during the Godhra riots in Gujarat when she was 20 years and five months pregnant. The pleas will be heard by a bench of Justice Ajay Rastogi and Bela M Trivedi.

Bilkis in her writ petition wherein she has challenged their remission and premature release has termed Gujarat government's remission order as "mechanical". Contending that the paper for "premature release" of the convicts were not shared to her despite reminders, the petition says, "SC already declared that enmasse remissions are not permissible and that remission cannot be sought or granted as a matter of right of the convict without examining the case of each convict individually based on their peculiar facts and role played by them in the crime."

"That when the nation was celebrating its 76th Independence Day, all the convicts were released prematurely and were garlanded and felicitated in full public glare and sweets were circulated and this is how she along with the entire nation and the whole world came to know about the shocking news of premature release of all the convicts of one of the most gruesome crime this country has ever seen," the writ petition also states.

Apart from Bilkis, women's rights activists including Subhashini Ali have also challenged the release of the 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano case. The plea challenging the remission becomes significant against the backdrop of Gujarat government as well as the accused (Radhey Shyam) questioning the locus of the women rights activists challenging their release.

Bilkis has also sought review of Top Court's May 13 order passed by the bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Vikram Nath.

When the nation was celebrating its 76th Independence Day, all the convicts were released prematurely and were garlanded and felicitated in full public glare

Bilkis Bano in her petition

Govt plans forestation to rejuvenate rivers

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@New Delhi

THE Central government has decided to start a mega project of forestry interventions for the rejuvenation of 13 rivers through mass tree plantations along rivers' treatment areas and organising other forestry activities.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has already released the Detail Project Reports (DPRs) for carrying out the programmes of forestry intervention for the rejuvenation of rivers.

The DPRs said deforestation and forest degradation, scanty rainfall, flash floods, landslides, bank erosion, faulty agriculture and horticulture practices, soil erosion, excessive groundwater extraction, rapid urbanisation, unregulated floodplain, waste dumping, the release of effluents, unregulated tourism, pilgrimage, unregulated sand mining, and riverbank encroachment are some of the issues that are impacting the rivers in the country.

Sharing this information in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on Friday, Ashwini Kumar Choubey, the Minister of State in the for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, said that the DPRs of this mega reviver rejuvenation project have been prepared by Indian Council of Forestry, Research and Education (ICFRE) Deharadun.

The rivers selected for forestry intervention for their rejuvenation are Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, Sutlej, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Luni, Narmada, Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna and Cauvery. According to minister, the programme interventions for the rejuvenation of selected 13 rivers include mass tree plantation, soil and moisture conservation works in the catchment area river front development to increase green cover and carbon sink.

The minister also said that works for reducing silt load and flooding and enhancing ground water recharges are also being included with the action plan of the river rejuvenation. " The total financial requirement to the interventions proposed in the DPRs for 13 river rejuvenation is ₹19,342.62 crore under four major components," he added.

The four major components are implementation of Forestry Intervention, Strengthening Knowledge Management and National capacity development, maintenance phase, including scaling up and replication of successful models and the national coordination for Forestry Intervention and River Conservation. He said that the DPRs have been shared with concerned states through which the selected 13 rivers are passing through.

Plantation scheme for 13 rivers

Rivers	Treatment areas (in sqkm) as per DPRs
Jhelum	80.85
Chenab	91.07
Ravi	88.23
Beas	243.20
Sutlej	312.00
Yamuna	5,229.82
Brahmaputra	592.50
Luni	702.25
Narmada	800.00
Godavari	849.23
Mahanadi	1,460.00
Krishna	2,315.44
Cauvery	1,867.96

- The government of India has recently released a river rejuvenation programme worth ₹193 billion through a massive focus on plantation activities.
- The 13 major rivers in the plan belong to the Himalayan region as well as peninsular India and they collectively cover a total basin area of about 1.89 million square kilometres which is about 57 percent area of India's total geographical area.
- The plan, however, is criticised by experts who note that it is nothing but old wine in a new bottle focusing on plantations without understanding and addressing the real issues behind the degradation of the rivers.

More than 3.15L posts vacant in Railways, says minister in RS

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@New Delhi

DESPITE all efforts being made to fill the vacancies, more than 3.15 lakh posts in different groups of services, including 12 posts in the top level, are still lying vacant in various departments of the Indian Railways. There are five posts, including three posts of members and the two posts of director generals in level-17 and five posts, including three posts of GM or it sequivalent, and two posts at the level of additional members in level-16 are lying vacant in the Railway Board. Notably, all these posts are cadre post for the officers of Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS).

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in a written reply to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge shared all this in the Upper House of Parliament on Friday.

According to an official provisional data of the Ministry of Railway shared in the RS, 2,021 posts under Group-A were vacant till September 15 this year and 858 posts were lying vacant for Group-B services.

The railway has shown around 3,12,944 posts being vacant under Group-C in all the 17 zones and other units as on November 1 this year.

The Northern Railway (NR) has the highest number of 38,754 Group-C posts vacant while the Western Railway has the second highest number of 30,476 Group-C posts vacant. Similarly, the Eastern Railway has 30,141 Group-C posts vacant, followed by the Central Railway with 28,653 posts vacant under same group of services.

In Group A services, the railway has the highest number of exiting vacancies for 185 posts under the East Central Railway, which is headquartered at Hajipur in Bihar. In other wings of Indian Railways, apart from zones, there are 434 posts vacant under Group A vacant.

UNOCCUPIED SEATS IN RAILWAYS

On the top levels	In Group-A	In Group-B
12	2,021	858

3,12,944 In Group-C

NEW RECRUITMENTS MADE IN THE LAST 5 YEARS BY RAILWAYS

On Group-A vacant posts	Group-C vacant posts
2,227	1,78,544

AIRPORT STRENGTH

With PM Narendra Modi set to inaugurate a new airport in Goa on Sunday, officials said the number of operational airports has almost doubled from 74 to over 140 since he took over in 2014

8 ITEMS FROM JAMMU & KASHMIR VIE FOR GI TAG THIS YEAR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	31	15	Mumbai	33	21
Bhopal	29	11	Panaji	31	23
Jaipur	25	08	Patna	25	11
Amritsar	24	09	Lucknow	24	11
Chennai	30	23	Port Blair	31	24
Kolkata	28	14	Imphal	20	10
Srinagar	12	-03	Chandigarh	23	09

A fighter who rose through the ranks

Himachal Pradesh's new CM has been a known detractor of party veteran Virbhadra Singh

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

HP's new Chief Minister and Congress MLA Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu arrives at the party office in Shimla on Saturday | PTI

A product of student politics, senior Congress leader and four-time MLA Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu was a known detractor of party veteran Virbhadra Singh who had dominated the Himachal Pradesh politics for over five decades until his demise last year.

Son of a road transport corporation driver, Sukhu, 58, had a modest beginning and used to run a milk counter at Chhota Shimla in his early days but went on to serve as state president of all the three wings of the Congress; National Students Union of India (NSUI), Youth Congress and Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC).

With the party bagging its first victory in the hill state without the charismatic presence of Virbhadra Singh, Sukhu's elevation makes it clear that the party is ready to move on. More so, as the party did not give in to the strong claim to the post mounted by Pratibha Singh, the party's state unit chief and wife of Virbhadra Singh.

Coming from a humble background he was president of NSUI for six year from 1989 to 1995 and then for the first time he got elected as councillor of Shimla Municipal Corporation (SMC) twice from 1992 to 1997 and again from 1997 to 2002. Suku was president of Himachal Pradesh Youth Congress from 1998 to 2008 and from 2008 to 2012. Rising through the ranks, Sukhu was a relentless fighter and remained the party's state unit president for a record six years from 2013 to 2019 despite being frequently at loggerheads with Virbhadra Singh, a six-time chief minister. The old rivalry came to the fore again after the party wrested power from the BJP in the just-concluded assembly polls, with both Sukhu and Pratibha Singh staking claim to the chief minister's post. He also remained Chief Whip of the Congress Legislature party from 2007 to 2012. He first became the MLA from Nadaun in Hamirpur district in 2003 and then in 2007 and after that in 2017 and now for the fourth time.

ukhu will be the first Congress leader from Lower Himachal -- comprising areas merged in Himachal in 1966 such as Nalagarh, Una, Hamirpur, Kangra and lower hills of Kullu – to occupy the top post. He will be the second chief minister from Hamirpur district, after BJP's Prem Kumar Dhumal. he Nadaun MLA, who is considered close to Rahul Gandhi and was the Congress campaign committee head, was unanimously elected leader of the Congress Legislature Party on Saturday. He will take oath as the chief minister on Sunday. He will be the seventh person to hold the post in the state. That he enjoys the confidence of the party high command was clear when he was appointed chairman of the Congress election campaign committee and a large number of his supporters got party tickets, party insiders say.

That he enjoys the confidence of the party high command was clear when he was appointed chairman of the Congress election campaign committee and a large number of his supporters got party tickets, party insiders say.During his tenure as the state Congress chief, he strengthened the organisation and his rapport with workers and legislators made him a strong contender for the chief minister's post, they said.

The Congress wrested power from the BJP in the hill state winning 40 of the 68 assembly seats. The polling was held on November 12 and the results were declared Thursday. This was the first state election since the demise of Virbhadra Singh in July 2021.

With inputs from PTI

Amid rising cases of man-animal conflict, U'khand raises relief

NARENDRA SETHI @Dehradun

IN view of the increasing incidents of human-wildlife conflict in the state, the government has announced on Saturday to increase the compensation amount to the families of those who have been killed by wild animals, from ₹4 lakh to ₹6 lakh.

At the 18th meeting of the Uttarakhand State Wildlife Board, chaired by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, it was also decided to increase the amount given to those who get seriously injured in such incidents from ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh. A corpus fund of ₹2 crore will be created for giving compensation to the victims of man-animal conflicts, the government said.

According to the official statement, the Jim Corbett Trail will be established in the state and an action plan will be prepared in collaboration with the Department of Tourism to bring the sites associated with Jim Corbett on the world tourism map.

It will include construction of plaques at various locations connected to Jim Corbett, renovation of track routes and promotion of home stays. The proposal for renovation of Shivalik Elephant Reserve was approved.

The Chief Minister expressed happiness that the number of snow leopards in the state has increased from 86 to 121 in the last five years.

Dhami directed the officials that more effective efforts are needed to reduce human-wildlife conflict. For this, the forest department and the administration will have to work in harmony.

As soon as the incident of human-wildlife conflict is reported, the concerned persons should receive the compensation amount within 15 days. CM also spoke about conservation of "Bugyals", and of more public cooperation for conservation of forests and reducing human-wildlife conflict.

Public should be brought on board

Public cooperation is very important to save forests and forest wealth. More efforts are needed to enhance the livelihood of people from forests.

MUMBAI DIARY

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI
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Uddhav's change of plans rattles allies

With Uddhav Thackery missing in crucial strategy meetings of Maha Vikas Aghadi and instead attending two consective meetings with Ajit Pawar at his residence, the NCP called off a mega rally that the MVA had been planning in Nagpur but will now be held in Mumbai. The rally was supposed to be help in Nagpur, on the first day of Maharashtra state assembly winter session, scheduled from December 19, against Shinde-Fadnavis government. NCP had even sent its former minister and senior NCP leader Dilip Wales Patil for preparations when he was asked to drop the plan.

BJP draws flak over remarks on icons

The BJP in Maharashtra has come under flak for its ministers making objectionable statements against national and state icons like Chatrapati Shivaji, Savitri Phule, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule among others. After Congress leader Rahul Gandhi commented on VD Savarkar's mercy petition to the Britishers, during his Bharat Jodo Yatra, the saffron party and its allies have started attacking the Bahujan icons to counterattack the criticism of the late RSS leader. Some of the leaders share that badmouthing icons will damage the BJP and alienate the Bahujan vote bank while others say that the RSS must be working on some long term plan and that it will work best for the party.

Shinde under criticism for MITRA appointment

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde has decided to go ahead and appoint people he has worked with, at crucial posts, irrespective of their social background. Ajay Ashar, a Thane based developer, once business partner to Shinde, has been appointed as the vice president of planning commission, MITRA. Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena faction alleged that Ashar is the collections man and even BJP made serious allegations against Ashar still he was appointed at key post. BJP objected but Shinde went ahead and appointed Ashar as the vice president of state planning commission.

C'garh: ED attaches assets of CM's deputy secretary, IAS officer

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached movable and 91 immovable properties worth Rs 152.31 crore belonging to four key accused whom the agency had earlier arrested and interrogated in connection with an alleged money laundering case and coal scam in Raipur.

The assets attached belonged to the alleged main kingpin, Suryakant Tiwari (65 properties); deputy secretary in the CM secretariat, Saumya Chaurasia (21 properties); IAS officer Sameer Vishnoi (five properties); Sunil Agarwal and others, the ED said.

The assets include ash, jewellery, flats, coal washeries and several plots of land (agricultural and commercial land, besides farmhouses in different districts) in Chhattisgarh. Meanwhile, all the four accused in the coal levy extortion case were again produced before the special PMLA court of additional sessions judge Ajay Singh Rajput in Raipur on Saturday. The court granted ED another four days of custodial remand for Chaurasia and extended the judicial remand for Tiwari, Vishnoi and Agarwal till January 11.

The federal probe agency has carried out extensive raids since October 11 at over 75 locations, including the mining department in Korba and Raigarh, where some incriminating evidence was seized. Statements of around 100 individuals were also recorded.

> **A policy change modified the existing efficient online system of issuance of transport permits, coal users were forced to apply for no-objection certificate with state mining officers**
>
> ED

The ED has claimed to have traced a cartel, involving senior bureaucrats, businessmen and politicians, that had entered into an alleged criminal conspiracy pertaining to the massive scam in which illegal levy of Rs 25 per tonne of coal was extorted and transported in the state. "The investigation revealed a policy change introduced as part of a grand conspiracy in which the director (mining) issued a government order on July 15 that modified the existing efficient online system," the ED said.

EXPRESS READ

6-yr-old dies after 84 hrs in borewell

Bhopal: A mammoth 84-hour battle to rescue a 6-year-old boy alive from a 400 ft deep borewell in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh was lost on Saturday. The incident happened in Mandawi village where class II student, Tanmay Sahu, was playing hide and seek with his sister and other kids when he fell into the borewell around 5pm on Tuesday. A rescue operation was launched with 61 rescuers, including NDRF and around 200 villagers from Mandawi and four adjoining villages.

6 trucks smuggling areca nuts torched

Guwahati: Six trucks, smuggling dry areca nuts from Myanmar, were set on fire by unidentified persons, in Mizoram's Mamit district on Saturday. The incident occurred between Zawlnuam and Zamuang villages. Mamit SP Lalthangpuii Pulamte said nobody was injured and the police were probing the incident. "We haven't yet been able to identify the persons who were transporting the products. We also haven't been able to ascertain where the vehicles were destined to," the SP said.

Modi praises Gehlot again, creates ripples in Rajasthan Congress

RAJESH ASNANI @Jaipur

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi has once again raised political temperatures in Rajasthan by praising Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. While chairing a digital meeting of governors, chief ministers and lieutenant governors on Friday, Modi appreciated the fine arrangements made for G20 meetings at Udaipur.

Just a month ago, his praise for the Rajasthan CM had set off a major controversy in the Rajasthan Congress as Sachin Pilot had attacked it strongly. While talking about the arrangements made for the G20 Sherpa meeting in Udaipur, the PM also said that through the hospitality extended in the traditional Rajasthani style and the local cuisine, the Rajasthan government has set high standards in organising meetings which should be inspirational for other states.

He also gave instructions for the documentation of this event, which can be used in future meetings in different states. Modi had praised Gehlot during the Covid-19 period too, when he had appreciated the management of the pandemic by the CM and described it as an example for the whole country. Last month, the PM had called Gehlot the seniormost chief minister with whom he got a chance to work in a programme organised at Mangarh Dham, a place of faith for the tribals living on the border of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. During that programme, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel were also present on the stage with Gehlot.

Rahul Gandhi with Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and Rajasthan Congress chief Govind Singh Dotasra and others during Bharat Jodo Yatra in Bundi | PTI

After Modi's statement, ex-deputy CM Sachin Pilot had targeted Gehlot, and compared him with former Congress veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad.

Pilot said the PM had earlier praised Azad and everyone knows what happened later, referring to the latter's exit from the Congress to form his own party. Days after Pilot made the comments, Gehlot targeted him, calling him a 'traitor' for trying to topple his government in collaboration with the BJP two years ago. Gehlot had also claimed that he has evidence of Pilot's betrayal. With both the Rajasthan Congress leaders accusing each other of conniving with the BJP, Modi's good words for Gehlot have once again set speculations rolling, especially since the PM's remarks came at a time when Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra is passing through Rajasthan.

Under strict instructions of the Congress high command, no leader is reacting openly to the PM's comments, but murmurs are aplenty in the anti-Gehlot camp.

Rahul seeks media support to spread 'Bharat jodo' message of love, harmony

ENS @ Bengaluru

CONGRESS leader Rahul Gandhi, who is currently on the "Bharat Jodo Yatra" from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, has appealed to the media organisations seeking their support to carry the message of love and harmony that he is trying to spread through his "Bharat Jodo Yatra".

"Thousands have opened their homes and hearts to us. In the heat, in the shade and in the rain, we walk and listen to our people. We listen to anyone who wants to be heard. We offer no judgment or opinion. We walk to unite every Indian regardless of their gender, caste, or religion because we know they are equal citizens. We walk to fight hatred and fear," the Congress MP stated in the letter to the media organizations appealing for support. He said for over two months now, lakhs of people have joined them in the Yatra that is designed to awaken the nation's conscience to "crippling inequality, brutal social polarization, and violent authoritarianism."

Those who cherish India as a country of immense diversity can see the attempt to violently flatten its reality, he said. "Today, the state, the ruling party, and the public institutions that are meant to check and balance them, have merged into a single entity," he stated. He accused the mainstream media of becoming an instrument that serves only the interests and destructive ideology of those in power. "This artificial noise-barrier has ensured that the voices of dissent, reason, tolerance and love are silenced. It is to overcome this barrier that we are walking from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. We are walking to listen to the voice of our people," he stated.

'Unhappy' Nadda to meet Bengal BJP leaders over rural poll plan

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

Unhappy with the party's organisational strength on the ground level, BJP's national president **JP Nadda** will convene a meeting with the organisation's three top Bengal functionaries in Delhi on December 19 to assess the preparedness for panchayat elections scheduled to be held next year. BJP's national vice president Dilip Ghosh, state secretary Sukanta Majumdar and Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari will meet Nadda to discuss the strategy.

The meeting has apparently been prompted by the recent report prepared by two leaders in charge of Bengal — Mangal Pandey and Sunil Bansal, who visited various districts and met the grassroots leaders to gauge the organisational strength. "Two months ago, Pandey and Bansal were given the task of assessing the real strength of the party's organization, as without it we cannot expect an impressive performance in the rural polls. Naddaji expressed his unhappiness over the party's strength at the booth level," said a senior BJP leader in Kolkata.

One-and-a-half years after the party's loss in the 2021 Assembly polls, BJP leaders in charge of West Bengal held meetings with the party's Mandal presidents and district incharges. Sources in the BJP said the decision of meeting the lower-rung functionaries was taken after the saffron camp's high command found 'exaggerated' reports on party's strength on the ground to hide the real picture.

"Based on the inputs from districts, the state committee submitted a report which was contrary to the actual picture. The report prepared by Pandey and Bansal found the state leadership's claim to have strong organisational set-up at the booth level false, as in reality, the party has no presence in many booths," another BJP leader said, pointing out that the panchayat polls are important to gauge the party's strength in rural Bengal at a time when the ruling Trinamool Congress is facing people's ire over the issue of corruption.

"The Centre has stopped release of funds to Bengal under the central schemes, and the state government has been forced to take a slew of measures to tackle the issue," said the BJP leader.

IAF centre is cornerstone of Atma Nirbhar initiative

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

TO keep pace with the IAF's growing requirements and the Centre's thrust on indigenisation, ASTE's staff strength and equipment have doubled in the last decade. Today, ASTE is equipped to handle about 70 different kinds of flight test activities on fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

As ASTE celebrates its golden jubilee, it has emerged as a cornerstone of the Atma Nirbhar initiative by ensuring self-reliance in testing combat aircraft and mission systems crucial for national security.

Military aviation is an inherently risky business and test flying is even riskier as they look to expand the flight envelope, and explore the unexplored to set the limits for others. "Flight testing, more often than not, is an exploratory discipline. Pushing the envelope is the routine call of our daily work," said the Air Vice Marshal.

Test pilots and flight test engineers who have defined the combat prowess of the IAF earn their wings at the Air Force Test Pilots School (AFTPS) located within the ASTE premises. It is one among eight such top-notch schools in the world, and has so far trained over 500 test pilots and engineers.

Now retired Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma, the only Indian to travel in space and the present group of astronaut designates, who are being trained for the upcoming indigenous manned space mission under the Gaganyaan programme are alumni of the AFTPS, which is also contemplating opening its doors for pilots from friendly nations.

In addition to the AFTPS, ASTE is also home to the Flight Test Instrumentation Laboratory (FTIL) which caters to the needs of instrumentation requirements of AFTPS and the Flight Test Squadron. The FTIL over the decades has evolved into one of the finest in India which deals with the niche domain of flight test instrumentation.

An entire city turned into burnt ruins: Zelenskyy

KYIV

RUSSIAN forces have 'destroyed' the eastern Ukrainian city of Bakhmut, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, while Ukraine's military on Saturday reported missile, rocket and air strikes in multiple parts of the country that Moscow is trying to conquer after months of resistance. Zelenskyy said the situation 'remains very difficult' in several frontline cities in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk provinces. Together, the provinces make up the Donbas, an expansive industrial region bordering Russia. "Bakhmut, Soledar, Maryinka, Kreminna. For a long time, there is no living place left on the land of these areas that have not been damaged by shells and fire," Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address, naming cities that have again found themselves in the crosshairs. "The occupiers actually destroyed Bakhmut, another Donbas city that the Russian army turned into burnt ruins."

Zelenskyy didn't specify what he meant by 'destroyed'—and some buildings remain standing and residents still mill about in city streets. The Ukrainian military General Staff reported missile attacks, about 20 airstrikes and more than 60 rocket attacks across Ukraine between Friday and Saturday. Spokesperson Oleksandr Shtupun said the most active fighting was in the Bakhmut district, where more than 20 populated places came under fire. He said Ukrainian forces repelled Russian attacks in Donetsk and neighbouring Luhansk. Taking Bakhmut would rupture Ukraine's supply lines and open a route for Russian forces to press on toward Kramatorsk and Sloviansk, key Ukrainian strongholds in Donetsk.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client **Mr. Sreekantaiah Prabhakar S/o. Late Sri. T.V. Srikantaiah**, residing at No. 3175, Delevan Drive, Saginaw, Michigan, 48063, USA, represented by his **GPA Holder Sri. B.S. Durgaprasad S/o. Late Sri. T.V. Srikantaiah** residing at No. Promenade, Beereshwara Nagar Main Road, JP Nagar, 7th Phase, Bangalore 560078, had lost his **original Possession Letter at No. AS HBCS/PC/58/86-87 dated 13.09.1986 and original Sale deed at document No. 2770/86-87, Book-1, Vol. No. 2450, pages No. 81 to 88 dated 25.08.1986 registered in the office of Sub registrar Bangalore south Taluk** in respect of **Site No. 27**, in ASHSBC Ltd. BDA Approved Layout, formed in Sy.No. 7/1 of Ittamadu Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Now Coming under Bruhath Banaglore Mahanagara Palike, Now Hoskerehalli Ward No. 161, BBMP PID No. 55-466-27 for which he lodge a police complaint for lose of original documents before the Bangalore City police at Lost Report **No.0410890/2022** dated **10/12/2022.**

Notice is hereby given to all concerned calling that if anyone found/notice above said original documents in public please inform my client or to me immediately. It is hereby inform that other than my client if any third person made any transaction over the above said property my client is not held responsible and same is not binding on my client.

S.D. LAW ASSOCIATES
Umesh .A, Advocate
No.87, Opp. 43A BMTC Bus Stop,
Vivekananda Nagar, Bangalore 560085.
(M) 9845930803

IN THE COURT OF THE 74th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT MAYO HALL, BANGALORE (CCH - 75) O.S No. 26346/2021

Between: HDFC LIMITED, Having its Registered Office at Ramon House, H.T. Parek Marg, 169 Backbeat Reclamation, Church Gate, Mumbai-400 020 *interalia* Having its Branch a office at 'HDFC House' No.51, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru-560001 ....*Plaintiff*

- And-

Geeta Gopinath & Ors. ....*Defendants*

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT NO. 1 TO 3

To,

1. Geetha Gopinath, Aged about 56 Years, W/o M. K. Gopinath, R/a: #307, Prashanth Nagar, Opp. Shoba Hospital, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore-560040.
AND: Acharya Institutes, Soladerahalli, Bangalore - 560090.
ALSO AT: Apartment bearing No. K 004, Ground Floor, Block No. K, "Urbana Pavillion", Situated on Kannamangala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District - 562110. ....*Defendant No. 1*

2. Raghavendra Amar, Aged about 33 Years, S/o M. K Gopinath, R/a: Apartment bearing No. K 004, Ground Floor, Block No. K, "Urbana Pavillion", Situated on Kannamangala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District - 562110. ....*Defendant No. 2*
AND: #307, Prashanth Nagar, Opp. Shoba Hospital, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore 560040.

3. Mannar Krishnappa Gopinath, Aged about Major, S/o not Known, R/a: #307, Prashanth Nagar, Opp. Shoba Hospital, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore-560040 ....*Defendant No. 3*
AND: Apartment bearing No. K 004, Ground Floor, Block No. K, "Urbana Pavillion", Situated on Kannamangala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District - 562110.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
"SCHEDULE "A"

All that piece and parcel of lands comprised in Survey Nos. 74, 86/1, 87/2 (P) and Survey No. 87/3, admeasuring 5 Acres 4.07 Guntas, situated at Kannamangala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on : **East by:** 12.0 Mts Wide Road (Approved Layout Road), **West by:** Private Property, Survey No. 88/2, **North by:** 12.0 Mts Wide Road (Approved Layout Road), **South by:** Proposed 40 Mts Wide Master Plan Road

SCHEDULE "B"
(Extent Post Relinquishment)

Undivided Share of land in Schedule B Property which is proportionate to Schedule 'C' Apartment.

SCHEDULE "C" APARTMENT

A three bedroom apartment bearing No. K004, Ground Floor, Block No. 'K' of the Residential Apartment Complex known as "URBANA PAVILION" to be built at the cost of the Second Party on the Schedule 'A' Property measuring 1508 Sq. ft. super built-up area together with limited rights to use common areas, passages, lobbies, staircases and other areas of common use and exclusive right to use the 1 no. of car park.

Whereas the Plaintiff has instituted the above proceedings against you seeking recovery of **Rs. 54,68,201/- (as on 12/08/2021)** along with interest at 18% p.a and other consequential reliefs. You are hereby summoned to appear before the 74th Addl. City Civil & Session Judge, Mayo Hall Unit, Bangalore [CCH 75] in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the above proceedings on **25th January 2023 at 11 A.M** take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned before, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court, this 9th day of December 2022.

By order of the Court
Sd/- Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court, Mayo Hall Unit
Bangalore

Advocate for Plaintiff
Shiva & Co., Advocates,
No.109, Commerce House, 9/1,
Cunningham Road, Bangalore–560052.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

TRIVANDRUM DIVISION (WORKS BRANCH) CORRIGENDUM E-TENDER NOTICE NO.V/W/TVC/24/2022, DATED 11/11/2022

Item No.(16)
Name of the work: Trivandrum Division-Deep Screening of track by BCM in Divisional Engineer/South section. Tender Closing date and time may be read as **22-12-2022 at 11.00 hrs** instead of 29.12.2022 at 11.00 hrs. All others mentioned in the above tender notice remain unchanged and details can be referred in the website portal **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr.Divisional Engineer/ Co-ordination, Trivandrum-14

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAHIM ABDUL WAJID, S/o.Mr.S.A.Rahim, my son Mr. TAHA, Aged about 17 years, is the Holder of Indian Passport No.V7421200 having Permanent Address No.16 Chalet, FF-101, 4th Cross, Ramkrishnappa Road, Cox Town, Bangalore-560005, Karnataka, India, and presently he is Residing at Kuwait, have changed my minor son's name from **TAHA** to **TAHA RAHIM ABDUL WAJID,** vide affidavit dated : 08.12.2022 before Advocate & Notary C.V. Earappa, Bangalore.

BIHAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION BOARD

2nd Corrigendum to EoI No.- PR 221/2022

With reference to EoI Notice No.- **PR 221/2022** issued in various newspapers on **17th November, 2022 for "Selection of Agency for Preparation of Study Report on current assessment of management processes, IT systems and infrastructure and examination system and suggesting improvements and reforms by benchmarking with best practices and assist in Bid Process Management for Bihar School Examination Board (BSEB)"**, changes have been made in Tender Schedule. All other Tender Conditions remains the same. Tender Document & allied documents can be downloaded from e-procurement website **https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in**

Secretary

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No. and Due Date	Description	Quantity (Nos./Sets)	EMD (Rs.)
1.	17221419 02.01.2023	Electro-Pneumatic Pressurised Flushing System for LHB Coaches	3979 Set	20,00,000/-
2.	14221155A 09.01.2023	Chopped Strand Mat	35965 Kgs.	1,85,350/-
3.	17221469 30.12.2022	Set of Ceiling Panels for AC & Non AC Area for LHB AC 3-Tier Economy Coaches	795 Set	20,00,000/-
4.	17221168 30.12.2022	Set of Spare Interior Fittings for LHB AC Economy Coaches	251 Set	1,44,840/-
5.	17221166 30.12.2022	Set of Spare Mirror for LHB AC Economy Coaches	244 Set	1,01,500/-
6.	12221361A 30.12.2022	1. Fixing Arrangement of Rolling Shutter Assembly for 3-Phase MEMU/TC Coaches	326 Nos.	1,57,940/-
		2. Fixing Arrangement of Rolling Shutter Assembly for 3-Phase MEMU/DMC Coaches	55 Nos.	
7.	07221327 09.01.2023	1. Supply of Stainless Steel Tubes and Double Ferrule Fittings for 3 Phase MEMU/DMC	50 Set	11,78,710/-
		2. Supply of Stainless Steel Tubes and Double Ferrule Fittings for 3 Phase MEMU/DMC	205 Set	

1. For details and making on-line bids, visit website **http://ireps.gov.in.** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in.** Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in. 2.** Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and tenders will be opened at 14.30 hrs. Tenders Sl. No. 1 to 6 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala and Sl. No. 7 will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. **3.** For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.

Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them.

PCMM

CORRIGENDUM

Tenderers may please note the following changes in 1. Tender No. 14221067A due on 06.12.2022. Due Date to be read as 13.12.2022 instead of 06.12.2022. **i.** Delivery schedule has been revised. **ii.** Specification of item has been updated to MPLFGWNAC version 10. **iii.** Specification No. MDTS-207 UPDATED, revision 5.1 to 5.2. **2.** Tender No. 17221439 due on 09.12.2022 for Supply and Fitment of Complete Furnishing of LHB AC-3 Tier Economy Class Coaches (80 Berthers) on Turnkey Basis. Due Date to be read as 16.12.2022 instead of 09.12.2022. **3.** Tender No. 05221589 due on 14.12.2022 for Set of Side Wall Complete and Roof Complete. Due Date to be read as 26.12.2022 instead of 14.12.2022. **All other terms & conditions will remain the same.**

PCMM

Tender No. G-RCF/122/Stores/110/2022-23 Dated 10.12.2022

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.73,05,650/- (Rupees Seventy Three Lakh Five Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty only)** as on **08-12-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **09-12-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Pavan Kumar Goyal, S/o. Mr. Jaya Prakash Goyal, No.3428, 13th Cross, K.R. Road, Near M.M. Brigade, Shasthri Nagar, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560028. No.2) Mrs. Madhu Goyal, W/o. Pavan Kumar Goyal, No.3428, 13th Cross, K.R. Road, Near M.M. Brigade, Shasthri Nagar, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560028. No.3) Mr. M.S. Reddy, S/o. Venkatarama Reddy, No.60, Vinayaka Nagar, Behind SFS School, Huskur Circle, Electronic City, Bangaluru - 560100.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Pavan Kumar Goyal, S/o. Mr. Jaya Prakash Goyal)

All that piece and parcel of residential converted vacant site bearing No.7, Old Khatha No.193, present Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike New Municipal No.730/253/254/11/7, formed out of the residential converted Survey No.11, Situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, 192 Ward of BBMP, measuring East to West 91.8 feet, North to South 103 feet, in all 9,455.4 square feet together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface. Boundaries : East by : Private Property, West by : 30 feet Road, North by : Private property, South by : Krishnappa's.

Schedule - B

310 square feet of undivided share of Right, Title and Interest in land of the schedule - A property .

Schedule - C

Apartment bearing No.201 in Second Floor, in the building Neha Sadan to be constructed on schedule property measuring 1,400 square feet of super built up area containing 3 Bedrooms, Hall, Dining and Kitchen, One Covered Car Parking along with Proportionate Share in common areas such as Passages, Lobbies, Staircase, Lift, excluding terrace, contained within the residential apartment known as Neha Sadan to be constructed on schedule property as per building specification (Annexure-I). Boundaries : East - Flat No.207, West - Flat No.202, North - Corridor, South - Stairs.

Reserve Price : Rs.43,00,000/-
(Rupees Forty Three Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
29-12-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, R.T. Nagar-Bangalore Branch,** 590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560032. Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No. 9342855177.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, R.T.Nagar-Bangalore Branch, 590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore-560032. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No. 9342855177. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 09-12-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.70,00,660/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Six Hundred and Sixty Only)** as on **07-12-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **08-12-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, No.17, Akash Bhavan, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Near Vasan Eye Care, Malagala, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 072. Also at:- Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, Hosamane, Saragodu Kundur, Mudigere, Chickmangalur, Karnataka - 577 132. Also at:- Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, No.44, Vigneshwara Layout, Second Main, Shettihalli Village, Karnataka - 560 044. Also at:- Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, Unibic Foods India Pvt. Ltd., No.1134, Shriram Nivas, Fifth Floor, 100 Feet Road, Second Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 038. Also at:- Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, No.351, 15th Cross, Saraswathi Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 040. Also at:- Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, Flat No.07, 22nd Main Vijaya Oasis, Ground Floor, Ittamadu, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560 061. No.2) Mr. S.D. Manjunatha, S/o. Mr. Doddegowda, No.17, Akash Bhavan, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Near Vasan Eye Care, Malagala, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 072.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank
(Property Owned by Mr. Pradyumna, S/o. Mr. S.D. Manjunatha)

Schedule - A:- All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land vide conversion order BDS.ALN.SR(S) 229/2003-04, dated: 29-10-2003 by Special Deputy Commissioner in Sy.No.116/1, situated at Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, within BBMP limits measuring 1,01,227 Sq.ft. and Bounded on the:- North by - Road, South by - Private Property, East by - Private Property, West by - Manipal County.

Schedule - B:- An undivided share of 509 Sq.ft. comprised in Schedule - A Property.

Schedule - C:- Flat bearing No.A-606 in Sixth Floor of the building Complex known as Malibu Enclave being constructed on the Schedule - A Property consisting of 2 Bed Rooms having super built-up Area of 1,272 Sq.ft., with One Car Parking and Bounded on the:- North by - Flat No.603, South by - Corridor, East by - Driveway, West by - Staircase and OTS..

Reserve Price : Rs.35,00,000/-
(Rupees Thirty Five Lakh only) (For Schedule - A, B & C)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
29-12-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, R.T. Nagar-Bangalore Branch,** No.590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560032. Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Ltd., R.T. Nagar- Bangalore Branch, No.590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 032. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No.9342855177. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **02.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place: Kumbakonam, Date: 09-12-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform General Public that my clients **M/s.AKSHAYA EMINENCE DEVELOPERS PVT. LTD.,** Having its office at No.54, 11th Cross, 5th Main, Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bengaluru - 560 038 and Presently at No. Level - 4, 495, CMH Road, Indiranagar, Bangalore - 560 038 Rep. by its Managing Director, **Sri.G.SATHISH BABU,** and **Sri.G.SATHISH BABU,** S/o. Shri. Ashwatha Narayana, Aged about 56 years, R/at Flat No.401, Aishwarya Signum, 7th Main, Indiranagar 2nd Stage, Opposite Ambedkar College, Bengaluru - 560 038, had filed a petition in respect of immovable property bearing Agricultural Sy.No.78/1, situated at Doddanekundi Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk measuring to an extent of 2 Acres 23 Guntas, which is morefully described hereunder and hereinafter referred to as Schedule Property before the Hon'ble VII Additional District and Sessions Judge, Bengaluru Rural District, Bengaluru in A.A.No.6/2022 against **Smt.H.G.MANJULA, Smt.H.G.LAKSHMI DEVI, Smt.PUSHPA, Sri.RAJASHEKAR REDDY Also known as Sri.RAJASHEKAR, Smt.DIVYA** and **Sri.H.G.PRASANNA KUMAR** and the Hon'ble court was pleased to passed an final order dated 14-11-2022 restraining them from alienating, creating, encumbering in respect of the Schedule Property.

Any person/s, institutions or other entities dealing with the SCHEDULE PROPERTY from **Smt.H.G.MANJULA, Smt.H.G.LAKSHMI DEVI, Smt.PUSHPA, Sri.RAJASHEKAR REDDY Also known as Sri. RAJASHEKAR, Smt.DIVYA** and **Sri.H.G.PRASANNA KUMAR** as vendors, through their agents and representative shall be doing at their risk and responsibilities and the said transactions shall not be binding on my clients and the same shall not be void abnitio. My clients also initiated arbitration proceedings in respect of Schedule Property and same is pending for adjudication.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Agricultural Sy.No.78/1, situated at Doddanekundi Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk measuring to an extent of 2 Acres 23 Guntas and bounded on the :
East by : Kundalahalli Main Road; **West by :** N.Ganesh Reddy & Sons Land; **North by :** Graphite India Road and **South by :** N.Ganesh Reddy & Sons land.

G. VEERENDRA BABU & ASSOCIATES
Advocates
No.64, Ground Floor, 4th Cross, Indiranagar 2nd Stage, BANGALORE - 560 038.

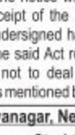
QuoteExpress
PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES
ROBERT H SCHULLER

punjab national bank

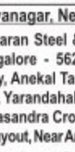
CSC : Circles Sastra Centre, Bangalore, 25-26, 1st. Floor, Raheja Tower, M G Road, Bangalore – 560 001. (e-Mail ID: cs8191@pnb.co.in)

PUBLIC NOTICE
BORROWER / GUARANTOR

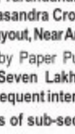
M/s Base Corporation Limited, Sangeeta Towers, No.3, First Stage, 80 feet Road, Near CMH Hospital, Indira Nagar, Bangalore. Amount Outstanding as on 30.04.2019 : Rs.185,90,38,421.26 + interest w.e.f. 01/05/2019.



01. **Shri Girish Kumar Arora (Director), S/o Shri Nand Lal Arora, a) 11, Rainbow Residency, Sarjapur Road, Bangalore – 560 035. b) No.776, 22nd Main, 22nd Cross, Sector – II, HSR Layout, Bangalore – 560 034.**



02. **Smt. Radha Devi Arora (Director), W/o Shri Nand Lal Arora, P-31, NDSE-II, Andrews Ganj, Defence Colony, Delhi – 110 049.**



03. **Shri Ranjit Dogra (Director) S/o Shri Ram Singh Dogra A-214, Splendour Gopalan Enterprises, Kundalahalli, Bangalore – 560 037. Amount Outstanding as on 30.04.2019 :- Rs.185,90,38,421.26 + interest w.e.f. 01/05/2019.**

It is hereby notified to public at large that M/s Base Corporation Limited has availed loan to the tune of Rs.122.80 Crore from the bank and due to default in repayment, the account has been declared as NPA on 31/12/2015 w.e.f. 30/06/2013. Shri Girish Kumar Arora, Smt. Radha Devi Arora & Shri Ranjit Dogra are Promoters Director & Guarantors in the above account. The borrower as well as its directors / guarantors have been declared as 'Wilful Defaulter' by the Bank on 10/12/2021.
The borrower / other obligants are required to pay to the Bank Rs.185,90,38,421.26 along with further interest thereon w.e.f. 01/05/2019 and other costs / monies for which bank has initiated recovery proceedings against them.
In public interest, it is informed that the above persons having been declared as Wilful Defaulter by the Bank, they are not entitled for financial assistance from any other Bank/Financial Institution.

Date: 07.12.2022 **Circle SASTRA Head**
Place: Bangalore **Bangalore**

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001.
E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

POSSESSION NOTICE (Immovable Properties)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **City Union Bank Ltd.,** having its Administrative Office at No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001 and one of the Branch Offices of **City Union Bank Ltd.** as mentioned below: Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) & (12), read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated as mentioned below calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of the said notice. The borrowers below named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers below named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The borrowers below named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd. for an amount as mentioned below and interest till the repayment of entire dues.

City Union Bank Ltd., No.17, 5th Cross, Vidyanagar, Next to Lark Hotel, Bommasandra, Bengaluru-Bommasandra Branch

I. Name of the Borrowers : No.1) M/s. Sri Kumaran Steel & Cement, 180, Vikas Nagar, Jagadish Reddy Building, Near SBI Bank, Yarandahalli Jigani, Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 562105. No.2) Mr. N. Ellayaraja, S/o. Nagan, G-5, Munikrishna Building, Kammasandra Cross, Hebbagodi Electronic City, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560100. Also at Mr. N. Ellayaraja, S/o. Nagan, 180, Vikas Nagar, Jagadish Reddy Building, Near SBI Bank, Yarandahalli Jigani, Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 562105. No.3) Mrs. Sarala, W/o. N. Ellayaraja, G-5, Munikrishna Building, Kammasandra Cross, Hebbagodi Electronic City, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560100. Also at Mrs. Sarala, W/o. N. Ellayaraja, No.64, Raja Reddy Layout, Near Anjaneya Temple, Kachanayakanahalli, Bommasandra, Bangalore - 560099.

Date of Demand Notice : **27-07-2022** followed by Paper Publication Dated **09-09-2022.** Date of Possession : **07-12-2022.** Amount Outstanding : **Rs.97,26,884/- (Rupees Ninety Seven Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Four only) within 60 days from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from 07-12-2022 till the repayment of entire dues.**

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. N. Ellayaraja, S/o. Nagan)

All that piece and parcel of immovable property under Sy.No.108/1 converted by Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore District vide its Official Memorandum Order No.B.DIS. ALN SR (A) 102/1988-89 dated **24-11-1993** of the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore Site No.64, Assessment Register No.530, E-Khatha PID No.150200103200802129. Measuring : East to West : 40 feet and North to South : 30 feet, Totally measuring an extent of 1,200sq.ft. situated at Kachanayakanahalli Village, Jigani, Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded as follows : East by : Road, West by : Private Property, North by : Site No.65, South by : Site No.63 in the midst of above said land (I) Extent 1,200 sq.ft., (II) Survey No.108/1, (III) Situated in Kachanayakanahalli Village, (IV) Anekal Taluk.

II. Name of the Borrowers: No.1) Mr. V. Sundar, S/o. P. Venkataswamy, at No.17, Near Airtel Tower, Opp. Yellamadevi Temple, Chandrapura, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Tk., Bangalore - 560099. No.2) Mr. V. Jaganath, S/o. P. Venkataswamy, at No.17, Near Airtel Tower, Opp. Yellamadevi Temple, Chandrapura, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Tk., Bangalore - 560099. No.3) M/s. Priya Chicken and Fish Center, Opp. SVS Complex, No.91/1, Anekal Main Road, Chandrapura Anekal Tk., Bangalore - 560099. Also at, M/s. Priya Chicken and Fish Center, No.1, Anekal Main Road, Chandrapura Anekal Tk., Bangalore - 560099. No.4) Mrs. B.M. Vanamala, W/o. V. Sundar, at No.17, Near Airtel Tower, Opp. Yellamadevi Temple, Chandrapura, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Tk., Bangalore - 560099.

Date of Demand Notice : **25-04-2022.** Date of Possession : **07-12-2022.** Amount Outstanding : **Rs.28,20,980/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty only) within 60 days from the date of the said Notice with subsequent interest thereon from 29-06-2022 till the repayment of entire dues.**

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Note : That our **333-Bengaluru-Bommasandra Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (SECURED OD WITHOUT DP : 512120020014435) dated **27-09-2017** requested by No.3 of you represented by No.1 of you as Proprietor for which Nos.1 and 4 of you stood as Co-obligants and Nos. 2 and 4 of you stood as Guarantors for the facility for a total amount of **Rs.10,00,000/-** at a ROI of **13.75%.** The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **29-03-2018** and the outstanding balance as on **28-06-2022** is **Rs.10,77,811/-** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **29-06-2022** till the date of realization.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. V. Sundar & V. Jaganath Sons of P. Venkataswamy)

All that piece and parcel of immovable Property bearing Site No.1016, Janjar No.902, as per Chandrapura TMC Assessment Katha No.999/1016/780 formed in converted land bearing Survey No.88, Which has been converted from Agricultural to Non-Agricultural Residential Purpose by the Order No.BDS.ALN.SR(A)25/1991-92 dated **19-11-1991** situated at Chandrapura Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. Measuring : East to West : 41+43/2 feet and North to South : 30 feet in all measuring 1,260 Sq.ft. with RCC Roofed constructed building consisting of Ground, First, Second and Third Floors approximately 36 square of vitrified Flooring and bounded as follows : East by : Private Property, West by : Road, North by : Site No.1017, South by : Site No.1015.

Authorised Officer
City Union Bank Ltd.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 07-12-2022

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank

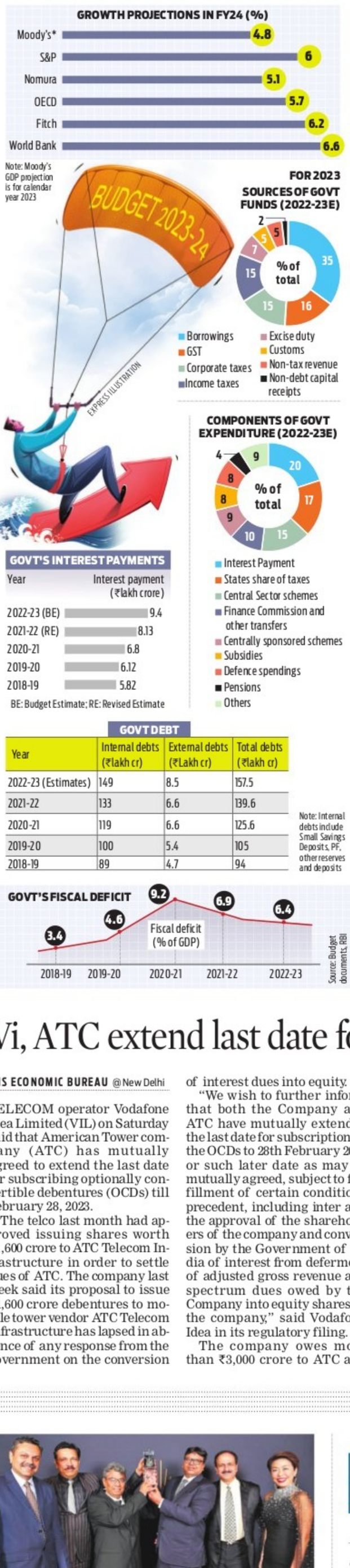
₹13,306 cr fund inflows through systematic investment plans or SIPs route in mutual fund in November

Budget '23: Tough task ahead for FM

Govt will have to keep finances in order and ensure 'goodies' for poor and middle class

FISCAL GROUND REALITIES

As the finance ministry gives shape to the budget for the next financial year, a look at some of the macroeconomic and fiscal trends



GOVT'S INTEREST PAYMENTS

Year	Interest payment (₹lakh crore)
2022-23 (BE)	9.4
2021-22 (RE)	8.13
2020-21	6.8
2019-20	6.12
2018-19	5.82

BE: Budget Estimate; RE: Revised Estimate

GOVT DEBT

Year	Internal debts (₹lakh cr)	External debts (₹Lakh cr)	Total debts (₹lakh cr)
2022-23 (Estimates)	149	8.5	157.5
2021-22	133	6.6	139.6
2020-21	119	6.6	125.6
2019-20	100	5.4	105
2018-19	89	4.7	94

Note: Internal debts include Small Savings Deposits, PF, other reserves and deposits

DIPAK MONDAL @New Delhi

IT is going to be a difficult task ahead for finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman and her team as they prepare the budget for next fiscal.

The minister and her team will have to walk a tightrope between keeping the government's finances in order and at the same time ensuring 'goodies' for poor and middle class as this would be the last full budget for the present government. What makes the matter worse is the imminent global slowdown in 2023, which could derail many positive macro trends.

No escape from global slowdown

Even as GDP is all poised to grow at 6.8-7% in the current fiscal bringing with it the tax buoyancy, the government finances look much better than expected at the start of the year. However, come FY24 and things could start slowing down, affecting the government's revenue generation. The tighter monetary policy in the current fiscal will have its lagging effect in the next fiscal as well. Most global financial and rating agencies have downgraded India's FY24 GDP growth estimates sharply, some are even projecting a sub-5% growth for next fiscal.

Nomura in one of its latest reports said India's growth rate cycle has peaked and a broad-based slowdown is underway. "While lower inflation should help support private consumption in coming months, the lagged effects of tighter financial conditions and weak global demand will weigh on investment and exports, while the post COVID catch-up in services is largely complete," it said Nomura pegs 2023-24 growth at 5.2%, OECD estimates it at 5.7% while S&P pegs it at 6%. The World Bank has been a little more generous with its FY24 growth rate at 6.6%.

Question on sustainability of revenue

In current fiscal, revenue growth has been robust and analysts as well as ministry officials have, of late, shown confidence that gross revenue collections may overshot by ₹3-4 lakh crore. The government has projected ₹27.5 lakh crore tax revenues in 2022-23. In the first seven months, the Centre had collected ₹16 lakh crore in gross tax revenue. Ideally, it should be able to double it by the end of the fiscal. But can it sustain the revenue growth next fiscal?

"Revenue growth has already started slowing down. GST revenues have plateaued with inflation and fall in import growth and corporate profits. The government will have to plan its budget accordingly," says Subhash Chandra Garg, former finance secretary. Former revenue secretary Tarun Bajaj recently told this newspaper the government should be able to sustain tax growth unless the country is hit by recession or slows down. Other sources of revenues like disinvestment and dividends from RBI and CPSEs might also dry up. The government is struggling to achieve the disinvestment target of ₹65,000 crore in the current fiscal. As per officials from the Department of Investment and Public Asset management (DIPAM), the government can't keep on raising the disinvestment targets year after year as there are limited CPSEs left to be monetised in future.

Fiscal deficit target for the current fiscal is 6.4%, which it is unlikely to breach. But the challenge for the government would be to bring it down substantially from those levels in the next fiscal. DK Srivastava, chief policy advisor, EY India, says FY24 budget may target a cut in fiscal deficit by 1% from FY23 (BE). Srivastava feels a 5.4% fiscal deficit is feasible.

RUN-UP TO BUDGET

Quality of expenditure

The budget is preceded by general elections in 2024. The FM might be tempted to loosen purse string and offer some goodies to 'common man'. She would also like the government to keep focus on infrastructure spending. Could she deliver on both? Infrastructure and other Capex spend is good for the economy and has been the principal growth strategy of the government, says Garg as he feels despite resource tightness, the government will maintain this year's Capex and will project a healthy growth in Capex for 2023-24. But how about spending on populist measures?

Garg feels the government is doling out a lot of on populist agenda in the current term in the form of PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, PM Kian etc. "There was no need for doubling the free food allowance per capita. The scheme has been continued for so long," he adds.

NEWSCOPE

POOR NATIONS MAY CONTINUE TO OPT FOR OBOR INITIATIVE

CHINA'S Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was launched in 2013 as Premier Xi Jinping's new global outreach to support the development of infrastructure and connectivity for developing nations. As many as 149 countries have joined the initiative and billions of dollars have been pumped into the development of ports, roads and other infrastructure from Sri Lanka and Africa to the Middle-East.

Yet it continues to be mired in controversy. India has not joined the BRI as highways being constructed for Pakistan pass through parts of Kashmir. While many poor nations in Africa and elsewhere hail China's ability to grant quick, subsidized loans and execute these projects speedily, there are enough analysts on the other side who see China as a neo-colonizer.

In recent weeks, the BRI has been in the news for the widespread protests by local communities in Pakistan's province of Baluchistan against China's construction of the Gwadar deep sea port. Pakistan, a major beneficiary of China's BRI, has signed up for dozens of projects worth over $60 billion along what is called the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The protests since September, significantly led by children, have been against China taking over the municipal administration and running check-points along roads and entries to the town. They are also directed against Chinese trawlers operating off the Gwadar coast, which is hurting local fishing communities.

BRI, a new-colonial tool?

The West sees the BRI as an attempt by China to increase its influence over the developing world. Forbes, in a recent article, described BRI as "something of a Mafia-like enterprise." The modus operandi is to approach poor countries in Africa or Central Asia who are in a high-debt situation. Quick grant of loans on easyterms along with rapid implementation through a spectrum of Chinese companies provides the initial push. However, when the host country defaults on repayments, the ownership of the project passes on to the Chinese.

Forbes estimates over a trillion dollars has been pumped into projects in Africa and elsewhere over the last decade. The oft example cited is that of Sri Lanka. In 2017, it was unable to repay the loans for the construction of the Hambantota port in the south of the country, which forced the government to hand over the lease to operate the port to a China-Sri Lanka joint venture for 99 years.

NEWSCOPE
GURBIR SINGH

Critics say the port location was questionable and it could not generate enough traffic. Others see Hambantota Port as part of the Mahinda Rajapaksa government's blind handover to the Chinese that pushed Sri Lanka into a debt trap; and ultimately into a wave of shortages that brought the government down earlier this year.

Let's take Nigeria. It has embraced Chinese investment since 2006, and has benefited considerably in improving its tattered infrastructure. But the construction of railway lines and airports has come at a price. The lack of transparency in the loan terms has favoured Chinese companies, while local Nigerian companies are unable to compete and are edged out.

The Diplomat, which has traced this BRI partnership in Nigeria in its 22 November, 2022 issue, notes that: "Nigeria's weak institutional capacity has resulted in BRI projects being mired in secrecy, corruption, and blatant disregard for domestic laws."

Surveys support China

The flip side is most of the poor nations, especially those in Africa, believe China is a reliable partner and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has contributed to infrastructure development in these countries. A survey of 7,000 leaders public positions in 140 countries carried out by AidData found: "China aid recipients were more likely to agree that their country had made progress on government accountability, physical security and social inclusion."

A closer look at Sri Lanka's finances reveals that its borrowings from China comes to only about 10% of the total portfolio of international debt. Further, the biggest financial burden is not borrowing from China but the need to repay international sovereign bonds (ISBs), which account for about 35% of the country's external debt.

The survey however confirmed the perception that the Chinese are opaque in their dealings and have little regard for human rights concerns at construction sites. For India, the BRI debate will remain academic. Given China's projects have encroached on Kashmir, India can hardly be expected to join the Chinese programme.

SOURAV ROY

For the developing world though, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a real alternative for fast-tracking infrastructure. It guarantees early sanction and easy terms; and probably the Chinese meddle less in the internal affairs of the host nations compared to their Western counterparts. With Russia bogged down militarily in Ukraine and paying a high economic price, the importance of China is bound to grow.

Much of the criticism of the Belt and Road Initiative can also be sourced to Western Sino-phobic think tanks that see the rise of China as a threat to the West. On the other hand, anecdotal evidence and surveys do show China's dealings with other nations is shadowy and opaque; and this will drag it down in the long run.

Vi, ATC extend last date for subscription of ₹1,600 cr OCDs to Feb 28

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @New Delhi

TELECOM operator Vodafone Idea Limited (VIL) on Saturday said that American Tower company (ATC) has mutually agreed to extend the last date for subscribing optionally convertible debentures (OCDs) till February 28, 2023.

The telco last month had approved issuing shares worth ₹1,600 crore to ATC Telecom Infrastructure in order to settle dues of ATC. The company last week said its proposal to issue ₹1,600 crore debentures to mobile tower vendor ATC Telecom Infrastructure has lapsed in absence of any response from the government on the conversion of interest dues into equity.

"We wish to further inform that both the Company and ATC have mutually extended the last date for subscription of the OCDs to 28th February 2023 or such later date as may be mutually agreed, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions precedent, including inter alia the approval of the shareholders of the company and conversion by the Government of India of interest from deferment of adjusted gross revenue and spectrum dues owed by the Company into equity shares of the company," said Vodafone Idea in its regulatory filing.

The company owes more than ₹3,000 crore to ATC and ₹7,000 crore to Indus Towers, the world's largest tower provider. The telco's plan included selling 16,000 optionally convertible, unsecured, unrated and unlisted debentures of ₹10 lakh each in one or more tranches. The bonds were to carry a coupon rate of 11.2% per annum, payable semi-annually during its term of 18 months and will be convertible into shares at a price of ₹10 per share. Currently, the company's net debt (excluding lease liabilities) is ₹2.2 lakh crore as of September 30, 2022.

Vi approved ₹1.6K cr share issue to ATC last month

The telco last month had approved issuing shares worth ₹1,600 crore to ATC to settle dues. The telco last week said its proposal to issue ₹1,600 crore debentures to ATC has lapsed in absence of any response from the government on the conversion of interest dues into equity

Meanwhile, the government had hinted that it is keen on converting the telco's dues into into equity. Earlier, sources in the government told this newspaper that the telecom operator must try to get investors and raise fresh capital to survive in the market instead of waiting for the government to pick up stake in the company. Fresh investment by Vi will show they want to remain in the Indian market and that would make the government consider holding a stake in the telco, the official had said. "The equity conversation will not give Vi major relief from dues, which it has to pay anyway."

EXPRESS READ

Snake found in AI plane cargo hold

NEW DELHI: A snake was found in the cargo hold of an Air India Express plane after it landed at the Dubai airport on Saturday and aviation regulator DGCA is probing the incident, according to a senior official. The B737-800 aircraft came from Calicut, Kerala and the passengers were safely deplaned. *PTI*

BMW India lines up 8 new launches

NEW DELHI: With 2022 turning out to be the best ever year in terms of sales, BMW India expects volume to remain robust in 2023 as well as it looks to drive in multiple products, including electric sedan i7. The carmaker is all set to introduce eight products over the next eight weeks in the country. *PTI*

Indian Overseas Bank revises interest rates

CHENNAI: Public sector Indian Overseas Bank has revised interest rates on its domestic, foreign currency non-resident (banking) term deposits with immediate effect, the lender said on Saturday. Depositors of domestic, non-resident external would receive rates up to 7.30% with a tenure of 444 days and up to 7.25% for a period of three years and above, Indian Overseas Bank said in a statement here. *PTI*

GAIL wins best 'Energy Transition – Midstream Company' award

NEW DELHI: GAIL (India) Limited has won the 'Energy Transition – Midstream Company' award at the prestigious Platts Global Energy Award 2022, emerging victorious among several international energy companies who were vying for the recognition. The award was received by Shri M. V. Iyer, Director (Business Development & Marketing) and Shri R. K. Jain, Director (Finance) at the awards ceremony held in New York City yesterday.

Business & Beyond

SJVN wins 200 MW Solar Project: Nand Lal Sharma

SHIMLA: 3rd December, 2022 Sh. Nand Lal Sharma, Chairman & Managing Director, SJVN informed that continuing its rapid portfolio addition, SJVN has secured 200 MW Solar Power Project in Maharashtra. SJVN will implement the project through its wholly owned subsidiary SJVN Green Energy Limited.

KSMCA presents ₹1 crore cheque to Karnataka Chief Minister's Relief Fund

Karnataka State Marketing Communication and Advertising Limited, a State Government Enterprise, providing advertising and other communication related services, has donated ₹1 crore from its profits for the Golden Jubilee year 2021-22 to Chief Minister's Relief Fund. While most of the sectors suffered due to COVID-19 during the past year, the Company has strived hard to provide quality services thereby assuring profitability.

Punjab & Sind Bank MD & CEO visits Bhubaneswar to address employees

BHUBNESHWAR: Swarup Kumar Saha, MD & CEO Punjab & Sind Bank, has visited the Bhubaneswar on 06-12-2022 and addressed staff of Punjab & Sind Branches at Mayfair Conventions Bhubneshwar, Odisha. He shared road map to achieve 15% overall credit growth by envisaging RAM Segment growth of 20-22% and corporate segment growth of 7-8% during Fiscal Year 2022-23. Sahashared that Punjab & Sind bank is committed to maintain the profitability booked in last fiscal alongside growing qualitatively and expanding its branch network PAN India.

Qatar FIFA WORLD CUP FINALS 2022

UGLY AS SIN

A TIMELINE OF EVENTS

43RD MINUTE Spanish referee Antonio Mateu Lahoz books four players and one Argentina assistant coach.

55TH Messi escapes without a booking for the most blatant of handballs ever. Netherlands politely ask the referee how he escaped.

By the time the game between Argentina and Netherlands finished, it had descended into farce and utter bedlam with both sides indulging in the dark arts, ie psychological warfare. The referee had lost control and players from both sides — some of whom were lucky to be on the pitch — allowed their emotions to get the better of them. In all, 16 yellows and one red was handed out. A look at why it finished the way it finished, with Lionel Messi at the heart of it.

A fight breaks out between both benches after Parades' indiscretion | AFP

89 Sub Leandro Paredes, after being booked for an ungainly foul on Nathan Ake, smashes the ball against the Dutch bench. It hits an empty chair. This inflames an already volatile situation and both benches pour out. Paredes should have seen a second yellow but the referee somehow doesn't book him again.

Dutch skipper Virgil van Dijk clatters into Paredas and puts the Argentina midfielder on the ground. It was violent conduct and Van Dijk should have been shown a straight red. The ref books one player from each side apart from Argentina manager Lionel Scaloni.

Referee awards Netherlands a free-kick from which they equalise | AP

90+10 German Pezzella is booked for a foul. Netherlands equalise with seconds remaining. Messi, who should have been on a yellow, picks up a yellow for dissent. Both benches begin arguing, again.

> *I don't want to talk about the referee, because they immediately reprimand you or sanction you, but I think people saw what happened. FIFA has to review that, it can't give a referee like that a match of this importance, when they're not up to the task.* — Messi, on referee Lahoz

AFTER THE MATCH

Lahoz, who had delivered a disasterclass of a performance, finally found his red card by sending off Denzel Dumfries after the final penalty.

Messi, though, was just getting started. He had a heated exchange with the Dutch support staff including manager Louis van Gaal and coach Edgar Davids. **He even cupped his ear** (*in pic*) while directly looking at their bench (it could mean a lot of things including a reference to Juan Roman Riquelme's celebration and Van Gaal's frosty relationship with the former Argentine player). Messi even did a 'yapping hand' gesture indicating Van Gaal talks a lot. A few minutes later, Messi referred to somebody as a 'fool' but it wasn't clear who he was addressing.

PENALTIES

After an incident free extra-time, it all went to pieces again as both sides indulged in all manner of mental integration during the shoot-outside. Argentina keeper Emiliano Martinez tried to unnerve the opposition. The Netherlands players in the centre circle surrounded Lautaro Martinez before his final kick. After Lautaro tucked away the winning penalty, the Argentina players, a majority of them anyway, repeated the favour by celebrating in the faces of the Dutch players.

Argentina players mock crestfallen Netherlands after the shootout | AP

CONTINENTAL DRIFT: VICTORY FOR AGES

Morocco keep up dream run, stun Portugal to become first country from Africa to book semifinal berth in World Cup history

AGENCIES @ Doha

MOROCCO became the first African nation to reach the World Cup semifinals as Youssef En-Nesyri's first-half goal sealed a tense 1-0 victory over Portugal on Saturday at Al Thumama Stadium.

The Atlas Lions, also the first Arab team to make the last four, added Portugal to their list of European scalps with a resolute second-half performance.

Cristiano Ronaldo has likely played his last World Cup match after making an ineffectual appearance as a second-half substitute, failing to score his first knockout-phase goal at the tournament.

Morocco took a 42nd-minute lead through En-Nesyri's header as they came on strongly late in the first period. Portugal piled on the pressure after the break but an injury-hit Morocco, without three of their four first-choice defenders once skipper Romain Saiss was forced off, hung on despite being reduced to 10 men in added time. The partisan crowd undoubtedly helped the North Africans over the line, although Portugal struggled to create many clear-cut chances as they lost a World Cup quarterfinal for the first time.

Five-time Ballon d'Or winner Ronaldo was sent on early in the second half by coach Fernando Santos but could not rescue the Euro 2016 winners. Instead it was another famous day for Morocco, after previous upset wins over Belgium and Spain, on penalties, in Qatar. Walid Regragui's men were set to face either England or holders France in the semifinals at Al Bayt Stadium on Wednesday.

Morocco will believe they can topple either of those sides, having still only conceded once at this World Cup.

Portugal enjoyed the majority of possession in the opening half-hour, but Joao Felix's fifth-minute diving header, saved by goalkeeper Yassine Bounou, was the closest either side came to an early goal. Morocco always looked dangerous, though, and Selim Amallah ballooned a shot over and Sofiane Boufal curled straight at Diogo Costa for the Africans.

En-Nesyri strikes

It was no surprise when Morocco did forge ahead shortly before the interval. Portuguese goalkeeper Costa came for a cross from left-back Yahya Attiat-Allah he was never going to get to and Sevilla striker En-Nesyri did the rest with a towering header.

Portugal almost equalised seconds later in spectacular fashion when Bruno Fernandes crashed a bouncing ball from the right-hand side of the box against the crossbar.

A crazy few minutes before half-time also saw Attiat-Allah, only playing in place of the injured Noussair Mazraoui, blaze wide after another rapid counter. Portugal's players were still appealing for a penalty after Fernandes threw himself to the ground under pressure from Achraf Hakimi at the other end. Morocco almost doubled their advantage four minutes after the restart as Costa just about managed to prevent Hakim Ziyech's free-kick from the right from flying all the way in.

Santos wasted little time in summoning for his captain, sending on Ronaldo and Joao Cancelo in the 51st minute. Morocco, already without injured defenders Mazraoui and Nayef Aguerd, were dealt another blow when Saiss was stretchered off.

Portugal started to lay siege to the opposition goal and Fernandes came close to levelling again when he fired narrowly over from the edge of the box. Morocco were largely keeping Portugal at bay, but Bounou had to be at his best to tip over Felix's drive with eight minutes remaining.

Eight minutes of injury time were largely spent with Portugal camped in the Morocco half and Ronaldo almost had his moment when his low strike was kept out by Bounou. Morocco substitute Walid Cheddira was harshly sent off for a second yellow card in the space of two minutes.

MATCH STATS

Morocco		Portugal
26%	Possession	74%
9	Shots	12
3	Shots on Target	3
248	Passes	663
71%	Pass accuracy	85%
15	Fouls	9
1	Yellow cards	1
1	Red cards	0
2	Offsides	2
3	Corners	9

GOAL TICKER

155 GOALS

Top scorer: Kylian Mbappe (France): 5

** after 59 games*

We came up against a really great Portugal team. We're drawing on all we have, we still have guys injured. I told the guys before the match we had to write history for Africa. I'm very, very happy. — Walid Regragui, Morocco coach

Best show by African nations		
2022	Morocco	S/Fs
2010	Ghana	Q/Fs
2002	Senegal	Q/Fs
1990	Cameroon	Q/Fs

0 Morocco are yet to concede a goal to an opposition player at this year's World Cup. The one goal they conceded was an own goal (Nayef Aguerd against Canada)

7 Since manager Walid Regragui was appointed, Morocco have kept seven clean sheets in eight matches.

3 Youssef En-Nesyri has now scored more World Cup goals (3) than any other Morocco player in the history of the competition.

3 Yassine Bounou, who made his 50th appearance for Morocco, is the first African goalkeeper to record three clean sheets in a single edition of the World Cup.

(top) Morocco players rejoice after their hard-fought win over Portugal on Saturday. Cristiano Ronaldo (centre) reacts after a miss in the dying seconds of the tie | AP

Veedol
Engine Oils

Sweat, fight and Argentina success

HOW IT ALL UNFOLDED

NETHERLANDS	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
ARGENTINA	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓

Argentina won 4-3 on penalties

Veedol
Engine Oils

THE 'Battle of Lusail' was won, and lost several times over the 120 minutes of football (plus penalties) on Friday night. Argentina won it first when they went 2-0 up against a Louis van Gaal-coached Netherlands that looked hapless in attack, even though they were dogged in defence. They won it again, when Emiliano Martinez, another of the tournament's several standout keepers, saved twice in the shootout. But it was only when Lautaro Martinez finally, emphatically, dispatched his spot kick that the moment of release finally arrived. Argentina were through to their fifth World Cup semifinal in typical fashion – drawing from the deepest depth of the well of emotion, anxiety, yearning. They don't seem to know any other way. (Argentina eventually won 4-3 on penalties after two goals each in 120 minutes.

With almost 80 minutes on the clock, Argentina were in control. But Van Gaal isn't known as one of the masters of the sport for nothing. Bringing on the 6 foot 6 striker, Wout Weghorst, (on loan to Besiktas from Burnley) proved to be decisive. Barely five minutes on the pitch and he scored, off a set piece that Van Gaal told reporters he brought to the camp from the Turkish club. The Dutch switched to all-out-physical, route one football. Play 2-3-5, with defender and captain Virgil van Dijk as the most forward player, they pressed and pressed, without even attempting to play any football. Just when it was almost over, another set piece, another practice ground routine and another Weghorst goal. 2–2 and there was a danger of Messi falling short again. But this generation is different.

Sitting in the stands, we almost wrote off the player who had earlier bagged his 10th World Cup goal for Argentina, matching Gabriel Batistuta's record. It was a lesson. Eight years ago, Van Gaal shut Messi down in that semifinal in Brazil by putting Nigel de Jong on man marking duties. In Qatar, Messi has been something completely different. Not in four World Cups have I seen the kind of fire, the kind of passion and the kind of football he is playing today. Throughout the 120 minutes (plus another 20 or so of added time), even with the great views of the press box at the Lusail Stadium, it was almost impossible to keep track of the spectral, diminutive No 10. He is minimal in motion, yet somehow aware of everything. In the 35th minute when Messi received the ball at the edge of the final third, it didn't seem much. But he knew exactly what he was doing. With an almost imperceptible drop of the hip, he sold Nathan Ake, clocked Molina's precise position and played the perfect through ball. Yet, finishing things off with a nonchalant penalty wouldn't quite be the Argentine way…

Express GOAL

SIDDHANTH ANEY @ DOHA

Pekerman impact

The way this generation has been brought up can, perhaps, be traced back to Jose Pekerman and his U-20 World Cup win here in Qatar back in 1995. Pekerman, like the other eccentric genius Marcelo Bielsa, focussed on total development — not just as a player but also as a person. Under his tutelage, Argentina went on an incredible run at the U-20 World Cups, winning five out of seven (1995-2007). The hope, of course, was that success at the junior level would translate into the elite level. Messi was part of one of Pekerman's winning teams, in 2005, and was given his first senior cap by the man the following year.

Lionel Scaloni, and his assistant Walter Samuel are also Pekerman products, as is magical winger Angel Di Maria. The generation that, arguably, began in Qatar will end here. For a few minutes, we thought that end had arrived. But Argentina dug into the deepest reserves, used the pain and turned it into an advantage, brought the fire and stayed alive. The only question now, can they do two more times and etch the word Qatar into the most glorious chapter of the nation's football history? Thousands of Argentine fans have appeared on the streets of Qatar. On Friday night, they didn't want to leave the stands, and the players seemed not wanting to leave the pitch. They come from all over — Kerala, Bangladesh, Palestine and of course every corner of Argentina.

QUICK PASSES

US reporter dies after collapsing at WC

DOHA: A leading American sports reporter, who last month had a run-in with Qatar's World Cup organisers over a rainbow LGBTQ shirt, died while covering a quarterfinal match Friday, his family said. Grant Wahl, 48, helped build soccer's popularity in the United States through his vivid reporting for *Sports Illustrated, CBS Sports* and other media. Wahl collapsed in the press tribune during Friday's Argentina-Netherlands game. *The Wall Street Journal* said he suffered a suspected heart attack. Wahl's wife Celine Gounder, a renowned epidemiologist, said on Twitter: "I'm in complete shock." A Qatar organising committee spokesperson said "he received immediate emergency medical treatment on site, which continued as he was transferred by ambulance to Hamad General Hospital."

A Netherlands supporter reacts after the quarterfinal match against Argentina at the Johan Cruyff ArenA in Amsterdam | AP

Neuer's season over after ski accident

MUNICH: Bayern Munich suffered a major blow with their iconic goalkeeper Manuel Neuer announcing he will be out for the rest of the season after breaking his leg skiing. Neuer had gone for a break to try and get over Germany's first round exit at the World Cup. "Hey guys," he wrote on Instagram with a photo of himself lying in a hospital bed with his thumb raised. "What can I say, the end of the year could definitely have gone better..."

Tite steps down as Brazil coach after exit

DOHA: Tite confirmed that it was the "end of a cycle" for him as coach of Brazil after the favourites were dumped out of the World Cup. The 61-year-old, who has been in charge since 2016, had previously made it no secret that he would leave the position after the tournament in Qatar, regardless of the outcome. "It is a painful defeat but I go in peace. It is the end of a cycle," he told reporters after Brazil's dramatic exit. "I already said that a year and a half ago. I didn't come here to win and then turn around and say I was going to stay. People who know me know that." After a goalless 90 minutes, Brazil took the lead through Neymar midway through extra time only for Bruno Petkovic to equalise for Croatia in the 117th minute.

Neymar's unfulfilled dream with Brazil

AFP @ Doha

YET another World Cup has ended in tears for Neymar, with football's most expensive player hinting he may not pull on the Brazil shirt again following a painful defeat to Croatia.

The 30-year-old, who gave Brazil the lead during extra time of their quarterfinal in Doha with a brilliant individual effort, was distraught after Croatia triumphed on penalties. Speaking to reporters, his voice trembling with emotion, he admitted he could not "100 per cent guarantee" he would be seen in the famous yellow shirt again. Neymar, who has 124 Brazil caps, will be 34 by the time the next World Cup comes around in North America in 2026. That is still younger than many leading names in Qatar, from Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo to Luka Modric and Olivier Giroud.

Croatia star Ivan Perisic's son consoling Neymar after the quarterfinal | AP

But Brazil's brittle number 10 hinted last year that he would not appear at another World Cup, suggesting in one interview that he might not have the mental strength "to put up with even more football". Neymar has carried the hopes of a nation into three World Cups since his emergence as a generational talent at Santos. He has scored eight World Cup goals but the tournament has exposed his vulnerable physique and fragile emotions.

In 2014, he was cut down in a quarterfinal win over Colombia and stretchered off in agony with a fractured bone in his back. Without him Brazil capitulated, losing the semifinal 7-1 to Germany.

PELE'S MESSAGE FOR STAR FORWARD

DOHA: Pele urged Neymar to "keep inspiring us" after the Brazil forward dropped a retirement hint following his team's shock World Cup defeat to Croatia. Pele, 82, said in a message on Instagram that he hoped the superstar forward would carry on playing. "You know, as I do, that no number is greater than the joy of representing our country," Pele wrote on Instagram. "I'm 82 years old, and after all this time, I hope I've inspired you in some way to get this far.... Your legacy is far from over. "Keep inspiring us. I will continue punching the air with happiness with every goal you score, as I have done in every game I've seen you on the pitch."

El Khayati breaks ISL record, CFC win 7-3

Chennaiyin FC put in a breathtaking performance to trounce NorthEast United FC 7-3 in the ISL match in Guwahati on Saturday. Abdenasser El Khayati pulled all the strings for the Marina Machans, bagging a hat-trick and two assists, to set a new ISL record for most goal contributions in a match. Meanwhile, FC Goa beat Odisha FC 3-0.

12 years after Test debut, Unadkat gets another go

Pacer will replace Shami for the two-match series starting Dec 14

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

Jaydev Unadkat | BCCI

THIRTY-ONE-YEAR-OLD Jaydev Unadkat has been called up to India's Test squad in Bangladesh as a replacement for an injured Mohammed Shami. Shami is currently undergoing rehab for a shoulder injury at the BCCI's National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru. He picked up the right shoulder niggle during a training session prior to the Bangladesh tour.

For Unadkat this is only the second call-up to the Test squad. His only appearance so far in the format came almost 12 years ago when he played in the first Test of the 2010-11 tour of South Africa as a teenager. In that Test at Centurion, he ended with figures of none for 101 as India lost by an innings and 25 runs. But Unadkat is a vastly improved player today and has proven his mettle across formats. Unadkat coming in place of Shami may not exactly be a like-for-like replacement but his current form and a good show in the last couple of seasons paved the way for his recall. He was the highest wicket-taker in the just-concluded Vijay Hazare Trophy in which has had 19 scalps in 10 games.

Unadkat is one of the most successful pacers in Indian domestic cricket and has picked 353 wickets in his 96-match career which includes a record-breaking 2019-20 season of Ranji Trophy in which he bagged 67 wickets that helped his side Saurashtra win their maiden Ranji Trophy title.

''I feel happy and delighted to get an opportunity to be part of the Indian Test squad,'' said Unadkat. Waiting for 12 years to get back into a Test squad can leave any other player frustrated, but not him. "To be honest, I think it has never been frustrating. Whatever games I got to play I was loving and enjoying them. While I was learning (all these years), I was also growing as a player and all those years have made me a better player. So at no moment did I ever feel frustrated, to be honest,'' he said. "And there was always that motivation and that hunger to play for the nation one day after I played that Test back in 2010. So it's been an emotional journey. And I feel humbled. I feel very emotional. I feel happy and proud at the same time I thank all those who kept believing in me and who kept dreaming with me. So it's a very emotional moment I would say,'' added Unadkat.

Unlike many players, Unadkat has been in red-hot form in the last couple of seasons in red-ball cricket. This season too he played in the Duleep Trophy and did well enough to help West Zone win the title. "You know bowling is about rhythm and currently, I have been bowling well. I would say that the way I am bowling at the moment it won't be a major shift from the domestic to the international circuit,'' he said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

India win as Ishan blows away B'desh

AGENCIES @ Chattogram

ISHAN Kishan was an epitome of insane power-hitting as his record-breaking fastest double hundred provided a healing touch in India's crushing 227-run consolation victory over Bangladesh in the inconsequential third ODI here on Saturday. Despite the record margin of victory — biggest by any team against Bangladesh, the 1-2 series defeat will certainly rankle the Indian team as both matches slipped away from its grasp after being in pole position.

Virat Kohli (113) struck his 44th ODI hundred. The century came Kohli's way after nearly 40 months of barren spell but it was easily overshadowed by Kishan's blitzkrieg as his 210 off 131 balls formed the cornerstone of India's mammoth total of 409/8. His innings had 24 boundaries and 10 sixes and double hundred came off only 126 balls. The total was always going to be insurmountable and Bangladesh were never in contention as they were bowled out for 182.

Kishan's blistering innings and the intent he showed while catching Bangladesh attack by the scruff of its neck would definitely put the team management under pressure to take tough calls as it moves into the World Cup year. **Brief scores:** India 409/8 in 50 ovs (Ishan 210, Kohli 113) **bt** Bangladesh 182 in 34 ovs (Thakur 3/30).

Here to serve athletes: IOA prez Usha

INDRANEEL DAS @ New Delhi

TWO things stood out when the newly-elected executive Committee members of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) sat on the dais at the Olympic Bhawan conference hall here on Saturday. There were more women representatives and athletes than any other EC before.

There is a bit of history and a lot of expectations as PT Usha, an Olympian and a multiple Asiad medallist, assumed office as IOA president on Saturday. The 58-year-old track legend will be the first woman president of the IOA and, of course, first Olympian too. With top athletes — including Olympic medallists — occupying almost half of the executive committee of 15, a new chapter has been ushered in Indian sports administration.

In a very short interaction, Usha spoke about her long association with sport, first as a player and then a coach and as an administrator. She hoped to help athletes grow. "Only for 13 years I have not been associated with sports but after that I have been always associated with sports as an athlete, a coach, as an administrator in different roles, but I never thought that one day I shall be an IOA chief or a Member of Parliament," she said. "All because of sports I am here. My special thanks to the newly-constituted Athletics Commission, Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and NSFs who asked me to file nominations and they supported me."

Usha said she would like to address issues of sportspersons and would want them to do well at the international stage. "My team and I, with our collective efforts, will do our best for the betterment of sports. I always wanted to fly our tri-colour high in the international arena," she said. "We will seek opinion of associations, players and coaches and we all will work together to bring more medals." The newly-constituted EC and other members of the IOA will have a lot on their plate. The accounts of the IOA need to be settled. The IOA was not functioning since last year when the matter went to court in November.

OFFICE-BEARERS : President: PT Usha; **Sr. vice president:** Ajay Patel; **Vice presidents:** Rajlaxmi Singh Deo, Gagan Narang; **Treasurer:** Sahdev Yadav; **Joint secretaries:** Alaknanda Ashok, Kalyan Chaubey; **Executive council members:** Amitabh Sharma, Bhupender Singh Bajwal, Lt. Gen. Harpal Singh, Rohit Rajpal; Dola Banerjee (SOM-F), Yogeshwar Dutt (SOM-M); **Athletes' Commission members:** MC Mary Kom, Achanta Sharath Kamal.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Boland takes 3 in an over as WI face 2nd defeat

ADELAIDE: Scott Boland grabbed three wickets in his opening over to leave a rattled West Indies on 38/4 and facing a defeat in the second Test as the hosts zeroed in on another win to seal the series. After the visitors were dismissed for 214 on Day 3 of the pink-ball clash, in reply to the hosts' 511/7 declared, Australia called time again at 199/6 in their second essay. **Brief scores:** Aus 511/7 & 199/6 decl vs WI 214 & 38/4 in 22 ovs (Boland 3/9).

Pakistan collapse puts England in driver's seat

MULTAN: Pakistan collapsed to be 202 all out against England as the visitors took a 79-run lead on a turning wicket in the second Test on Saturday. Left-arm spinner Jack Leach struck three times and Joe Root picked up two wickets in an over as Pakistan lost eight wickets for 95 runs in the opening session. England now lead by 282 runs. **Brief scores:** Eng 281 & 202/5 in 49 ovs (Duckett 79, Brook 74 n.o; Ahmed 3/81) vs Pak 202 in 62.5 ovs (Babar 75; Leach 4/98).

Tenacity & penalties, keys to Croatia's run

BY JAMES ROBSON

WITH a population of around four million people, the magnitude of Croatia's win against Brazil was not lost on Croatian coach Zlatko Dalic. To reach to reach back-to-back World Cup semifinals was "unimaginable" he said. The runner-up from 2018 is going deep again in Qatar - defeating Neymar and Co. 4-2 on penalties after a 1-1 draw through extra time on Friday.

"To eliminate a massive tournament favourite and probably the best team as well... Only Croatia could've done this," added Dalic. Okay, this wasn't Saudi Arabia shocking Argentina. But on the face of it, Croatia's win against Brazil could rank among a host of upsets already produced by a tournament that is refusing to stick to the script.

Croatia may have been the underdog against Brazil, but they did reach the final in Russia four years ago and was a semifinalist in its very first World Cup as an independent nation in 1998 – losing to France on both occasions. Compare that to Brazil, who have only made it past the quarterfinals once since last winning the tournament in 2002.

Croatia's players celebrate their win | AP

So how does a country with a population ranked at 128th in the world according to size continue to overperform on the biggest stage of all? One factor that cannot be discounted is the wider story of Croatia's fight for independence following the breakup of Yugoslavia in the 1990s when thousands of its people died during the conflict. The fighting spirit of the nation is a theme frequently referenced by its players and Dalic. *AP*

NUGGETS & TRIVIA

The most common surname of World Cup players is Gonzalez or Gonzales and the most common score in a WC finals match is 1-0.

A match between Peru and Romania in 1930 saw the lowest attendance in a World Cup match. Only 300 people attended the game.

Didier Deschamps who was France's winning coach in 2018 also captained the 1998 French team which eventually won the World Cup. He is the third person to win the World Cup as player and coach after Brazil's Mario Zagallo and Germany's Franz Beckenbauer.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

ई निविदा सूचना

संख्या: NWR&WIDADMIN (GENS)/452022 दिनांक: 08.12.2022

मुख्य परियोजना प्रबन्धक (जीएसयू), उत्तर–पश्चिम रेलवे, अजमेर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से नीचे दिये गये कार्यों के लिए दी गई तिथि को 15:00 बजे तक ई निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। **निविदा संख्या** :GSUAII-RPZ-01-22-23 **कार्य का नाम:** Construction of S&T building, High level platform, platform shelter Water booth Earthwork in formation, track work (including ballast supply) and extension of minor bridges in connection with provision of one additional loop line at Ranapratap Nagar station on COR-UDZ section of Ajmer Division **अनुमानित लागत:** ₹6,45,17,213.96/– **बयाना राशि :** ₹ 4,72,600.00/– ई निविदायें बन्द होने की तिथि व समय 30.12.2022 को 15:30 बजे ई निविदायें खोलने की तिथि व समय 30.12.2022 को 16:00 बजे। उपरोक्त ई निविदा की विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट का पता www.ireps.gov.in

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase the property bearing No. 1, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Old PID No. 100-624-1, New PID No. 018-W0346-14 measuring East to West [(55 + 49)/2] feet and North to South [(65+60)/2)] feet totally measuring 3,250 Sq. ft. and property bearing No. 2, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike PID No. 100-624-2 in all measuring 2,400 Sq. ft. situated at Annayappa Layout, Geddalahalli, R.M.V. II Stage, Bengaluru, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Old Ward No. 100, New Ward No. 18 i.e., the schedule properties from its owner **Sri. G. V. Ravi Kumar, S/o. late G. V. Venkatesh,** residing at No. 54/2-1, Vijaya Farm, R.M.V. II Stage, 1st Block, Geddalahalli, Bengaluru – 560 094. In this regard, our client intends to enter into an Agreement of Sale with the aforesaid owner in respect of schedule property.

If any person/s, Institution/s, Bank/s etc., have/has got any right/claim or any Person/s having custody of original documents or any claim/right of whatsoever over the schedule properties should file their objections along with necessary documents in support of their claim **within 15 days** from issuance of this notice. Objections will not be entertained without necessary documents as well as objections if any beyond fifteen (15) days will not be entertained/considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

All that piece and parcel of property bearing No. 1, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Old PID No. 100-624-1, New PID No. 018-W0346-14 measuring East to West [(55 + 49)/2] feet and North to South [(65+60)/2)] feet totally measuring 3,250 Sq. ft. and property bearing No. 2, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike PID No. 100-624-2 in all measuring 2,400 Sq. ft. situated at Annayappa Layout, Geddalahalli, R.M.V. II Stage, Bengaluru, (Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Old Ward No. 100, New Ward No. 18).

Date:10.12.2022
Place :Bengaluru

Address of the Counsel
D. S. Jayaraj, Advocate
M/s. Jayaraj & Associates,
No.22/G-8, Krishna Towers,
3rd Main, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009.

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.97,29,305/- (Rupees Ninety Seven Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Five only)** as on **20-04-2022** together with further interest to be charged from **21-04-2022** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the Borrowers / Guarantors **No.1) M/s. Sree Lagmamma Enterprises, 11, Thirumalashettyhalli Village, Samethanahalli Post, Hoskote Taluk - 560066. No.2) Mr. C. Raju, S/o. Mr. Chikkanna, No.303, Mallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 560066. No.3) Mrs. Sunandamma, W/o. Mr. C. Raju, No.303, Mallasandra, Hoskote, Bangalore - 560066.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mrs. Sunandamma, W/o. Mr. C. Raju)

All that piece and parcel of land bearing Sy.No.2/1, Mallasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore measuring 2 Guntas out of 1.30 Guntas and bounded on the:- East by - Balance Land in Same Sy.No., West by - Balance Land in Same Sy.No., North by - 20 ft. Road, South by - M.M. Lakshmana Murthi's Property.

Reserve Price : Rs.55,00,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Five Lakh only)

Schedule - B : (Property Owned by Mrs. Sunandamma, W/o. Mr. C. Raju)

All that piece and parcel of vacant land bearing Site No.140 formed in No.188/2A situated at Koralur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore measuring 1 Gunta out of 4 ¼ Guntas and bounded on the:- East by - Remaining land in Same Sy.No., West by - Nanjundappa's Property, North by - Govt. Road, South by - Murugesh's Property.

Reserve Price : Rs.20,00,000/-
(Rupees Twenty Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
29-12-2022	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Whitefield Branch,** No.295, Main Road, Opp. Mayura Bakery, Whitefield, Bengaluru Urban - 560066. Telephone No.080-28454282, Cell No.7483060905

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Whitefield Branch, No.295, Main Road, Opp. Mayura Bakery, Whitefield, Bengaluru Urban - 560066. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact : **Telephone No.080-28454282, Cell No.7483060905. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 09-12-2022 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

Bank of Baroda

K G Road Branch (Bangalore Central)
No 2, Prithvi Building, K G Road, Bangalore - 560 009, Tel: 080-22268106/07, E-mail:BANGAL@bankofbaroda.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER AND GUARANTORS

(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)

To,

1. **M/s Shrinivas Dairy Products,** Shed No 10, Survey No 38/1, Krishnasagar Village, Neralur Panchayath, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 562107.
2. **Sri Shreenivasa K G,** S/o Gopalappa K (Partner/Guarantor). At Post - Vasana, Harihara Tauk, Davanagere - 577516
3. **Sri Shreenivasa K G,** S/o Gopalappa K (Partner/Guarantor),, VBHC Vaibhava, Block No 16, Door No 106, Chandapura-Anekal Road, Byagadadenahalli, Marsur, Bangalore - 562106.
4. **Mallugouda,** S/o Daulatrao Police Patil (Partner/Guarantor), Near Bus Stand, At Post - Bhairamadgi, Afzalpur, Kalaburgi - 585265
5. **Mahadev Mallappa Teli,** S/o Mallappa Teli (Partner/Guarantor), LIC Colony, Jamkhandi, Bagalkot - 587301
6. **Girish Mallappa Teli,** S/o Mallappa Teli (Partner/Guarantor), LIC Colony, Jamkhandi, Bagalkot - 587301.

DearSir/ Madam,

Re: Credit facilities with our K.G.Road Branch

1. We refer to our letter Ref No: KGR/AGM/RK/79/2018 dated 09-07-2018 conveying sanction of various credit facilities and the terms of sanction. Pursuant to the above sanction you have availed and started utilising the credit facilities after providing security for the same, as hereinafter stated. The present outstanding in various loan/credit facility accounts and the security interests created for such liability are as under:

Nature and type of facility	Limit (Rs)	Rate of Interest	O/s as on (inclusive of interest up to 14.10.2022)	Security agreement with brief description of securities
Term Loan 73840600000121	Rs 97,00,000.00	12.05%	Rs 88,12,000.00	Hypothecation Machineries, Vehicles.
Cash Credit 73840500000011	Rs 12,00,000.00	12.09%	Rs 11,99,000.00	Hypothecation of Stock in trade, Book Debts.
FITL 73840600000311	Rs 90,783.00	12.10%	Rs 36,440.00	
FITL 73840600001132	Rs 4,14,264.00	7.60 %	Rs 3,44,206.50	

Collateral Security: Property No 1: All that piece and parcel of the site bearing No 93, Khata No 1505, E-Khata No: 150200101800401437 & 1505/93, measuring East to West 37+41.3/2 Feet & North to South 60 Feet totally measuring 2348 Square Feet carved out of Schedule "A" Property in the BMRDA Approved Layout called as "Prashanthi Gardens" situated at Marasoor Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded as follows; East by: Neighbour's Land, West by: 30 Feet Wide Road, North by: Plot No 94, South by: 30 Feet Wide Road.

Property No 2: Schedule 'A' Property: All that piece and parcel of the converted land bearing 1) Sy No 9/1A, measuring 2 Acre 20 Guntas, 2) Sy No 9/1B, measuring 26 Guntas, 3) Sy No 9/2 measuring 1 Acre 38 ½ Guntas, 4) Sy No 10/1, measuring 30 Guntas, 5) Sy No 93, measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas, 6) Sy No 93, measuring 2 Acre 28 Guntas, 7) Sy No 93 measuring 1 Acre 8 Guntas, 8) Sy No 95/1 measuring 2 Acre 21 Guntas, 9) Sy No 95/2, measuring 28 Guntas, 10) Sy No 95/2, measuring 1 acre 4 1/2 Guntas, 11) Sy No 95/2, measuring 20 Guntas 12) Sy No 8 measuring 1 Acre 17 Guntas, 13) Sy No 9/3, measuring 32 Guntas, 14) Sy No 10/2, measuring 30 Guntas, all properties situated at Byagadadenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore which are converted from Agricultural to Non-Agricultural Purpose.

Schedule 'B' Property: All that piece and parcel of the Apartment bearing No 106, Gram Panchayath Khata No 1652/106, E-Khata No 1652/16/106, 150200101300721379 at First Floor, consisting of 2 BHK, in 16th Block, residential complex name and style as "VBHC Vaibhava" Chandapura Anekal Road 562106, constructed over the Schedule 'A' Property, having super built up area of 620 Sq Feet and 308 Sq Feet of undivided share, right, title, interest and ownership in Schedule A property, together with one car parking in the schedule 'A' property. And bounded on, East by: Apartment No 105, West by: Apartment No B17/103, North by: Apartment No 107, South by: Road

(For mortgage of property it may be stated that Mortgage of property located at)

2. In the letter of acknowledgement of debt dated _____ you have acknowledged your liability to the Bank to the tune of **Rs_____ /-.** The outstanding stated above (para1) include further drawings and interest up to _____. Other charges debited to the account are Rs.____/-. (Or)
3. As you are aware, you have committed defaults in payment of interest on above loans/outstandings for the quarter ended **September 2022.**
4. Consequent upon the defaults committed by you, your loan account has been classified as **non-performing asset on 26.09.2022** in accordance with the Reserve Bank of India directives and guidelines. In spite of our repeated requests and demands you have not repaid the overdue loans including interest thereon.
5. Having regard to your inability to meet your liabilities in respect of the creditfacilities duly secured by various securities mentioned in para 1 above, andclassification of your account as a non-performing asset, we hereby give younotice under sub-section (2) of section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and call uponyou to pay in full and discharge your liabilities to the Bank aggregating **Rs.1,03,91,646.46 (Rupees One Crore Three lakhs Ninety One Thousand Six Hundred Forty Six Paise Forty Six only)** and interest thereon, as stated in para 1 above, within 60 days from the date of thisnotice. We further give you notice that failing payment of the above amount with interest till the date of payment, we shall be free to exercise all or any of the rights under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act, which please note.
6. Please note that, interest will continue to accrue at the rates specified in para 1above for each credit facility until payment in full.
7. We invite your attention to sub-section 13 of section 13 of the said Act in terms of which you arebarred from transferring any of the secured assets referred to in para 1 above byway of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business),without obtaining our prior written consent. We may add that non-compliance withthe above provision contained in section 13(13) of the said Act, is an offencepunishable under section 29 of the Act.
8. We further invite your attention to sub section (8) of section 13 of the said Act in terms of which you may redeem the secured assets, if the amount of dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is tendered by you, at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction/ inviting quotations/tender/private treaty. Please note that after publication of the notice as above, your right to redeem the secured assets will not be available.
9. Please note that this demand notice is without prejudice to and shall not beconstrued as waiver of any other rights or remedies which we may have, includingwithout limitation, the right to make further demands in respect of sums owing tous.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
Chief Manager & Authorised Officer,
Bank of Baroda, K. G. Road Branch

Place: Bengaluru
Date : 14.10.2022

Indian Overseas Bank
ARM Branch (2666), No. 10/1, 3rd Floor, Lakshmi Narayanan Complex, Palace Road, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore- 560052. Email ID: iob2666@iob.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE SECURED ASSETS

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower (s) and guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Overseas Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on **28.12.2022** for recovery of the below mentioned dues plus un-debited interests and cost thereon and less payments made if any to the Indian Overseas Bank, Secured Creditor from the below mentioned borrowers. The reserve price (Plus 1% Income tax on sale consideration of above Rs.50 lacs to be borne by the successful bidder separately) and the **earnest money deposit will be as mentioned below:**

ARM Branch: Ph: 080-22250258

1 **Name of the Account:** Mr. Sunil Jain, **Guarantors:** Mr. Bharateeshkumar Jain. **Loan A/c No.:** 032303491100001. **Outstanding Dues:** Rs. 13,91,45,648.00 as on 01.01.2015 + undebited interest and costs incurred thereon less payments if any made.

Security Details: Building under construction with ground floor in Sy No. 60/2, measuring 28 guntas of Gowdahalli Village, Dasanpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk **standing in the name of Mr. Sunil Jain alias Sunil Kumar Jain**. Bounded by: East: S K Gandhi's land, West: Doddaiah's land, North: Venkatagiriyappa's land, South: Narayanappa's land.

Reserve Price: Rs. 3,38,00,000.00 **EMD:** Rs. 33,80,000.00 **Bid increase amount:** Rs. 50,000.00

2 **Name of the Account:** Rangaramu & T.N. Suma, **Loan A/c No.:** 129803351200022. **Outstanding Dues:** Rs. 54,75,682.00 as on 01.01.2014 + undebited interest and costs incurred thereon less payments if any made.

Security Details: Residential flat situated at No. S 3, 2nd Floor, VAS Residence at Site Nos. 41 & 46, Khatha No.84, Sy No. 84/2, Conv No. DIS.ALN.SR(S)192/1984-85, Venugopal Reddy Layout, DVG Road, Arakere Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk super built up area 1068 Sq.Ft. (270 sq.ft. of undivided share) with one car park in the basement **bounded on the:** East by :Thayappa's property, West by: Road and Private property, North by: Private property, South by: Purushotham Reddy's property. **Property owned by Mr. Rangaramu.**

Reserve Price: Rs. 40,00,000.00 **EMD:** Rs. 4,00,000.00 **Bid increase amount:** Rs. 50,000.00

Date and Time of e-Auction: 28.12.2022 between 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.
Auto Extension of - 10 Minutes, **Known Encumbrance if any:** NIL
Inspection Date and Time: The property can be inspected on any working day between 10:00 am and 05:00 pm. from 13.12.2022 to 27.12.2022. Please contact the **Malleswaram Branch Manager:** contact number 080-22950325/326/327 for Property Sl. No.1 and **Banashankari Branch Manager:** contact number 080-22950128, 22950129 for Property Sl. No. 2.
Submission of online application for Bid with EMD starts from: 13.12.2022
Last date for submitting online application for bid with EMD amount: 27.12.2022 before 5:00 pm.
For detailed Terms & Conditions please visit the following websites:
1) www.iob.in(https://www.iob.in/TenderDetails.aspx?Tendertype=E_Auction)
2) https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi
Contact Numbers: 080-22950320/205

For Indian Overseas Bank
Sd/-
Authorised Officer

Date : 09.12.2022
Place : Bangalore

Note: This may also be treated as a Notice under Rule 8(6)/ Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and guarantor/s of the said loan about holding of e-auction on the above mentioned date. Bank reserves its right to defer or cancel the sale at any point of time without assigning any reason. Advertisement matter published in English will prevail in case of any discrepancy.

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